THE

LIFE and ADVENTURES

OF

Sir *Bartholomew Sapſkull*,

BARONET.

NEARLY ALLIED TO MOST OF THE

GREAT MEN in the three Kingdoms.

BY SOMEBODY.

VOLUME THE SECOND.

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TO THE

GREAT MAN

IN

BLOOMSBURY-SQUARE.

THIS indirect method .... this novel way of paying a dedicatory compliment, has given the alarm .... Truth, the ſtandard of England, has been miſtaken for the banderole of ſcandal, and the whole corps of political diſſidents, have accordingly enliſted under my banner.

No ſooner did the advertiſement of my addreſs appear in the public prints, but the ſtreet where I live was tumultu-

ated with the loud roar of the politeſt raps, perpetually thundering at my late deſerted door! ... Liveries of the gayeſt fancy now diverſify my hall! .... and the back ſtair-caſe, formerly the bye-road which led to my ſtudy, is now become the common turnpike for compliments to ride poſt upon!

Cards, moſt elegantly faſhioned, now ornament my looking-glaſs! .... ſo that I can ſee my face and my conſequence at the ſame time.

Envy owns me as her friend .... Detraction begs to do me ſervice! ... Malice is impatient to ſee me! .... Deceit does herſelf the honour to enquire after my health! .... Flattery entreats to kiſs my hand! .... Venality will ſell all mankind but herſelf to oblige me! .... And

Faction

Faction diſpatch'd Popular Clamour to invite me to her route! .... Idleneſs and Prodigality ſent me a piece of rich brocade, freſh from the looms in Spital-Fields! .... Hypocriſy preſented me with lawn for weepers, and offered me her divine aſſiſtance! .... Avarice and Ambition gave me their advice!

They ſeemed perfectly perſuaded, that from the intereſt of ſuch friends, I might have any thing only for aſking .... and I was of the ſame opinion! .... Avarice marked out the pay-maſter for me .... but Ambition recommended the ſeals.... I thought myſelf qualify'd for either!

When Avarice and Ambition left the room, Prejudice vaniſh'd with them .... I then ſaw my new friends in their proper character .... the mere bubbles of ſtate,

blown

blown into admiration by ſome miniſterial trifler, who not ſatisfy'd in themſelves, wiſhed to ſee every man's importance as unſubſtantial and as tranſitory as their own .... to depend upon the breath of another.

Shocked at ſuch a frothy alliance, I immediately left my ſtudy, and went in ſearch of Wiſdom ... Public Spirit, and Virtue (the palladium of every ſtate) who were not of the party.

Wiſdom had ſhut herſelf up with Mr. Walpole at Strawberry-Hill, to avoid the unconſtitutional uproar of the General Election, leſt by miſtake, ſhe ſhould be numbered with thoſe fools, who ſquander away their time, their fortune and their conſtitution, to purchaſe a ſeat, which our wiſer forefathers were hired to accept.

Public

Public Spirit was gone upon a viſit at the fortunate cooper's, who got the twenty thouſand pounds in the laſt lottery.... and I found

Virtue at St. James's, conſulting his majeſty upon a new arrangement of miniſters.

His majeſty wiſh'd to ſee a man at the head of his affairs, whoſe fortune ſet him above venality.... whoſe domeſtic œconomy would direct him in the management of the nation's money.... whoſe fondneſs and generoſity, as a father, would excite in him a parental affection for his country.... whoſe ſimplicity of manners would abhor flattery and deceit.... whoſe religion would diſdain hypocriſy... whoſe ſentiments would make him ſuperior to envy or malice.... whoſe integrity of heart

heart would make him deſpiſe popular clamour; and whoſe good ſenſe would never ſuffer him to be guided by avarice or ambition.

Virtue ſat ſmiling in his Majeſty's face, and recommended the Duke of Bedford to take the lead.

THE

THE LIFE and ADVENTURES OF Sir BARTHOLOMEW SAPSKULL, Bart.

CHAPTER I.

The Proem.

AN author's promiſe, like a publican's bill of fare, invites his gueſts to much more than he intends to provide for their entertainment; they are equally profuſe in the firſt, and

equally illiberal in the latter; ..... it is this ſort of parſimony which deſtroys the credit of the literati, and leſſens the attention due to every author who gives up his time to the profit or amuſement of the public.

I will avoid, at leaſt, this cenſure, by endeavouring to keep my word with my correſpondent readers, and flatter myſelf I ſhall find very little difficulty in the undertaking.

As I make a regular entry of all the promiſſory notes ſtanding out againſt me, it is impoſſible I ſhould forget, that the public has a right to demand of me an exhibition of the curious portraits of thoſe human monſters who conſpire the deſtruction of mankind, either by plundering their fortunes, ... alienating their wives'

wives' affections, or deflowering the reputation of their daughters.

Baſe minds put into action what bad hearts dictate, and not having the reſtraint of one ſingle virtue, they precipitate their plan of miſchief to the ruin of the once opulent, the once happy, and the once reſpectable man; who, by their knaviſh and libidinous practices, is either beggared in his real eſtate, or reduced to bankruptcy in the perſonal poſſeſſion of conjugal and domeſtic felicity, and thereby rendered the object of ſcorn and deriſion to the malicious world, who are too apt to mark the afflictions of mankind with the ſtamp of meanneſs and contempt.

In my enquiry after originals, I ſhall ſearch the grand repoſitory at Arthur's for

ſome; . . . in Albemarle-ſtreet for others, and in the cities of London and Weſtminſter for ſuch who move in an humbler ſphere of wickedneſs, than the frequenters of either, and which will ſerve equally to illuſtrate and aſſiſt my plan, by furniſhing me with characters, though not of conſequence enough to make a figure in the grand deſign, will acquit themſelves very well in the under villainies of the epiſode.

As ſoon as I have perfected my collection, and arranged them in a proper numerical order, I ſhall open my gallery upon the ſame ſpirited principle, as the grand duke opens his, ... that the world may profit from it.

That the young ſtudent may copy the manner of the good, and correct the imperfections

perfections in the bad maſters; .... that genius of every claſs, of every denomination may ſtudy the various models ſet before them, and from the variety of ſubjects, adapt their deſigns to the execution of their purpoſes.

And as many figures in life, like figures upon canvaſs, exhibit artificial repreſentations, and deceive the undiſcerning into a rapturous opinion of their performances: .... it ſhall therefore be the end of my labour to detect ſuch counterfeits; .... diſpel the dark deſigning ſhades from ſome; .... diſcharge the ſubtilty of varniſh from others; .... and endeavour to reſtore every character to the full impropriety of its original deformity.

And for thoſe pictures (you muſt here obſerve, every character in my collection forms itſelf) which were excellent in their primitive ſtate, but from an imitative propenſity, affect a manner injurious to their own natural turn of fancy, and from this miſtake become very unpleaſing objects, and hurtful to the judicious eye that beholds them; I ſhall conſult the compoſition of ſuch geniuſſes, and with the freedom of an artiſt, ſeparate the careleſs ſtrokes of original boldneſs, from the borrowed touches of elaborate delicacy.

Every man has a caſt peculiar to himſelf, and if he attempts to alter the parts aſſigned him, the ſymmetry of the figure will be diſproportioned to the deſign, and the harmony of the whole immutual and un-adjuſted.

As

As the intent of this work is to exhibit a ſection of the human mind, for the benefit of thoſe abſtruſe pedants, who labour at the myſteries of trade, or ſtudy the knowledge of books more than the hiſtory of men; .... I ſhall upon that conſideration be particularly correct in my ſketches, to the end they may at once behold a faithful epitome of their own nature, in the revelation of mankind.

And leſt an irregular, injudicious diſpoſition of the ſubjects, ſhould make them appear a crude, undigeſted maſs of mechanical artifice; I ſhall be particularly attentive to arrange them in proper claſſes, and at proper diſtances; ſo that the citizen from the ungenial atmoſphere of Watling-ſtreet, may diſtinguiſh the infernal pride of Paulus Amilius from

the divine humility of Edward the black prince, as readily and as clearly as the coxcomb of taſte in the more rarified element of courtly St. James.

And laſtly, with pleaſure I publiſh it, my greateſt pride is to diſown the ſervile temper of my brother artiſts; for my part, I would not diſgrace my profeſſion, or belie my own abilities, by ſoftening the ill-favoured lines of deformity into the comely features of tenderneſs and beauty, to adulate and pleaſe the firſt man in the kingdoms of the world! For ſurely if in drawing the portrait of lord H—— I ſhould ſay he was as able a lawyer, as ſound a politician, or as polite a gentleman as lord Somers, I ſhould incur the cenſure of a lowly flatterer, or (what is more to be feared) the penalty of a libeller.

For

For my reputation's ſake I would not ſay that lord Dupe bore any reſemblance to his uncle Bufo.... or fawn upon the late treaſurer, and ſwear he was the direct image of old Burleigh.

And I ſolemnly declare, if his majeſty would make me his ſerjeant painter, I would not be ſuch a traitor to the memory of admiral lord S—— by any comparative compliment to the ſecretary, who in our degenerate days (however capable he is) does not add a ſingle ray to the glory of that right honourable title.

It muſt be obſerved I keep no regular account of time, that no unkind applications may be made..... Thus much by way of ſyllabus to my future operations.

CHAP.

CHAP. II.

Night ..... A mere ſketch.

'TWAS ſilence all, ... night's ſable mantle curtained the world ... nature ſeemed ſtill, and all creation ſlept, ſave thoſe ſcheming few, who chuſe this ſeaſon for their dark intrigues; .... and thoſe intoxicated ſons of mirth, who drown their ſenſes with intemperate draughts, and ſacrifice their health to noiſy joys: .... aſſociates vile!

Pale Cynthia had begun her reign, and each attendant orb ſhone twinkling, when the young hero, Sapſkull, unawed by fear, ſtept forth, and like the Trojan youth, bore off his prize, in ſtern deſpight of Brutus and the Roman ſenate.

His

His ſparkling nymph flamed like the blazing comet of the night.

I am aware that men of ſmall capacities will, in affectation of a joke, be ready enough to trifle with the lady's reputation, by adding a fiery tale to the blazing comet, in order to illuſtrate the ſimile.

And the bright luminaries which light the world ſhone out, or ſeemed to ſhine in fainteſt luſtre, when meaner planets ſhot from their ſpheres ſubmiſſive.

As no body may be at a loſs to know who theſe meaner planets are, I will inform every one, as far as my intelligence reaches;.... they are called by the travelling name of the Sporades, a race of outlaws which Hipparchus thought unworthy a place in his catalogue, and aſtronomers

no ners ſince his time have not claſſed them with any particular family.

Thus complimented by the higher powers, they paſſed through the City as the infirm protectors of the night were creeping their hourly circuit, and bawling out, " paſt five o'clock ſtar-light " morning."

Pox on't.... theſe watchmen by their unſeaſonable noiſe have interrupted my dream, ſo I will ſuſpend the relation of it, and cloſe the chapter to be revenged of thoſe uſeleſs diſturbers, by offering my plan for improving the deſign for which theſe invalids are employed.

CHAP.

CHAP. III.

A ſcheme.... which none but fools can object to.

AS our conſtitution requires us to chuſe proper repreſentatives to ſecure our liberties when we are awake.... it is highly neceſſary we ſhould be as circumſpect in picking out the ableſt men to preſerve our lives when we are aſleep... But as corruption riots in pariſhes as well as in counties and boroughs, we muſt expect to find imbecility of mind in one watch-houſe, and infirmity of body in the other.... with this perverſeneſs in both, that one is ſilent when he ſhould make a noiſe.... and the other makes a noiſe when he ſhould be ſilent.

But

But if that happy time ſhould ever come, when elections to places of truſt and confidence are free and uncontrouled, then we may find heads within doors and heels without, the one to trace the turnings and windings of ſophiſtry in the traitor who is labouring to ſhackle our liberties, and the other to purſue through the dark covert of the night, the villain who ſeeks to deſtroy our lives, and rob us of our property.... but as the firſt is far beyond my reach to amend, I will endeavour to reform the latter by the following propoſition.

As the three regiments of guards are deſigned for the immediate ſecurity of the royal family, I could wiſh every ſtep was taken, and every method uſed to preſerve the morals of people choſen for ſo great a charge..... I cannot help thinking

thinking but the preſent cuſtom of billeting theſe men on public houſes, is the ſureſt way to debauch their minds, and encourage their inclination to drunkenneſs, and every other kind of intemperance, ſo that upon the preſent ſyſtem, inſtead of being our protectors, they are the greateſt terror to the inhabitants of this great city and country which ſurrounds it.

To remedy this evil, I would (with humbleſt ſubmiſſion) recommend the legiſlature to oblige every pariſh within the city and liberty of Weſtminſter, (the city of London may follow the like plan with their train-bands) to erect a barrack for the accommodation of a ſubaltern's guard, who ſhould patrol the ſtreets at certain ſtated hours, inſtead of the preſent almoſt uſeleſs cuſtom of watchmen.....

and

and as I would preſerve every compliment of reſpect due to the civil authority, I would propoſe that the officers of the ſeveral diviſions, ſhould attend at the Rotation-office every morning, to receive from the magiſtrates the neceſſary inſtructions for their roll of duty the ſucceeding night..... and as they will neceſſarily vary the hours of patrolling every time, it muſt effectually give a check to the induſtry of the moſt vigilant thief, as he can never aſcertain any interval to carry on with ſecrecy his wicked depredations... and when theſe wretches are ſurprized in their plundering, if they ſhould eſcape the purſuit in one ſtreet, they muſt inevitably be ſtopt by a party croſſing them in another: ſuch embaraſſments would ſoon diſhearten evil diſpoſed people from engaging in ſuch a deſperate and dangerous buſineſs, and be the happy means

means of ſtopping the growth of villainy.

For an encouragement to the ſoldiers, I propoſe they ſhould have a further ſubſiſtence of ſix-pence a day paid them by the reſpective pariſhes in which they are quartered, which would enable them to provide better for themſelves and their families, and make their income an object of attention .... and from being debarred the opportunity of ſpending their money in beer-houſes, they would ſoon get the better of that propenſity to drunkenneſs, and thereby ſecure them from thoſe unmanly puniſhments which their preſent irregularities expoſe them to ..... Flagellation not being ſo frequently practiſed, would in time be conſidered a diſgrace, and a ſoldier would be more aſhamed to be tied to an halbert,

than he is now afraid of being tied to a ſtake; thus their pride would raiſe them to a rank in the community, and they would be as much reſpected for their ſervice, as they are now deſpiſed for their uſeleſsneſs.... the royal family would be guarded by men inſtead of brutes, and his ſubjects would ſleep in tranquility, as their lives would be more effectually ſecured from the ravages of fire, as they would be always ready to give the earlieſt alarm, as well as to aſſiſt in defending their property from the mercileſs plunderer, who ſeldom fail to neglect ſo favourable a juncture.

CHAP.

CHAP. IV.

An extraordinary interview.

THE baronet's family were alarmed before ſix, by a tumultuous thundering at the door.... ſuch violent aſſaults are the noiſy premonitors, anticipating the approach of ſome perſon of quality.... but what was the ſervant's confuſion, when upon opening the door, he ſaw the young 'ſquire and his tinſelled Enamorata!

As the firſt entrance of a flaming candle into an obſcure apartment, dazzles the eye, ſo the emiſſive rays of her ſuperb ornaments, foiled by the darkneſs of the paſſage, glared too powerful for the half ſhut, feeble eyes of the gaping

valet, he could not look againſt the refulgency and corruſcations of her ſhining trumpery .... as he was but juſt awaked from a dream, and not being able to reconcile what he ſaw, he could not perſuade himſelf from fancying, he was ſtill aſleep, and that the objects before him were ſtill the creation of a drowſy brain, and behaved with ſuch awkward complacency, ſo different from his accuſtomed humility and addreſs, that the 'ſquire put on the frown of auſterity, which ſoon convinced him of his miſtake, which was followed by the ſevereſt reproaches for not proſtrating himſelf, and ſhewing the reſpect due to ſuch a noble perſonage, as her uncommon appearance muſt neceſſarily have informed him.

The lacquey took the hint, and behaved himſelf with due reverence and ſub-

ſubmiſſion, the reſt of the ſervants having ſhaken off the incumbent deity, who preſides very much over thoſe party-coloured gentry, now appeared before them, and with ſimple grin, hailed the return of their young maſter, bending with lowly bows to the radiant queen.

Their noiſy civility ſoon diſturbed the baronet, who, very impatient to know the cauſe of ſuch an unuſual tumult, declared that no perſon beneath the dignity of a prince could make atonement for ſuch bold preſumption, in breaking in upon the reſt and tranquility of a perſon of his nobility.

He kept pulling the bell with great vehemence, which never ceaſed tinkling till a ſervant, fluttering with amazement, entered the chamber, and ſo eager was

he to inform his maſter of the eventful ſtory, that he would not ſtay for my grandfather to aſk the queſtion; but in a ſtrange, ſtammering manner, told him in his confuſed way .... that .... the noble 'ſquire .... your honour's ſon .... my young maſter ..... was returned home .... that he was .... and brought with him .... I am ſure, ſome empreſs ... ſo young! .... ſo blooming! .... ſo vaſtly fine! .... ſo ſparkling! .... ſo .... indeed ſir, ſhe looks like a conſternation, and villifies whatever approaches her majeſty.

As many young men, even in what is called polite life, too often expoſe their illiteracy, by pretending to be clever, it is no wonder if a poor ſervant, who is only the imperfect tranſcript of his maſter, ſhould now and then fail in the like attempt,

attempt, therefore excuſe the blunder, when I aſſure you he meant to ſay conſtellation, and inſtead of villify, I wiſh the poor fellow, for his own ſake, had ſtumbled upon vivify.

The haughty baronet, whoſe eyes were extended with aſtoniſhment, ſtared hideous, which augmented the tremor of the trembling ſervant..... what (exclaimed he) is my boy returned?... and with an empreſs, ſay you?

O yes, your honour (replied the poor afrighted lacquey) ſhe can be nothing under I am conferent.

My grandfather, compoſing the muſcleſs of his face, from that arrangement of ferocity, he had at firſt marſhalled them, and fetching a deep ſigh, whiſ-

pered with much ſerenity, then I pardon him.... for nothing but to confirm his new alliance with an empreſs, could juſtify his return ..... bid them come up.

I find the boy has a great proportion of my blood in his veins.... then lowering his voice to a ſtill deeper tone, he very pathetically lamented his own unhappy fate, in under-rating his conſequence by marrying ſo lowly.

My ſon's marriage is a reproach to me.... O fool, fool.... I had rather... ay much rather... marry an empreſs with only a ſmock to her dowry, than the filthy heireſs of the wealthieſt citizen, who always carry about them the flavour of their trade.

Who

Who can expect roſes from lady Ling the fiſhmonger's wife, or pinks and lillies from the daughter of ſir Thomas Graves, dealer in candles.... on the contrary, nauſeous ſmells muſt be, and are their perpetual inheritance.... then gave a very piteous groan indeed... happily he was ſoon diverted from his melancholy reflections, by the appearance of his ſon and daughter.

The lady on her part approached him with an eaſy, becoming, well acted diffidence, and the ſuffuſed light of the candle, contributed to ſet off her perſon and behaviour, as it leſſened every defect in the one, and added brilliancy to the ſplendour of the other.... whilſt her huſband with awkward imitation followed her modeſt example.

I will

I will ſtop awhile to conſider what the ſcrupulous reader may ſuggeſt in objection to this almoſt unaccountable interview.

CHAP. V.

The abſurdity of the ſubſequent chapter demonſtrated, to prove the propriety of it.

THE circumſtantial critic, whoſe ſpeculative eye roves only upon the ſurface of nature, and gathers objects as they groſsly appear, without ever enquiring into their properties or inclinations, will, I am afraid, pronounce the following ſcene, a counterfeit action.

However, I am careleſs about the opinions of ſuperficial men, when I have the

the judgment of an able philoſopher and profound critic, to ſupport the credit of my relation, by giving countenance to the probability of it .... he ſays,

"There is not a propoſition, howe-
" ver wild and irrational, but human
" nature is capable of believing .....
" there is not a part, let it be ever ſo
" abſurd, but human nature is capable
" of acting" .... So much for French conſtitutions.

Let us enquire what an Engliſh author ſays upon the ſame ſubject .... he boldly tells us in our own language ....
" there is no ſtronger characteriſtic of
" human nature, than its being open to
" the groſſeſt contradictions."

And

And to prepoſſeſs you ſtill more in favour of my hiſtory, I will introduce (to the memory of thoſe who are acquainted with, and to the intimacy of thoſe who never heard of him) the ſaying of Cicero with regard to the inconſiſtency, even in a philoſopher .... *Nihil tam abſurde dici poteſt, quod non dicatur a philoſopho* .... If he had been an Engliſhman he would have ſaid, there is nothing ſo abſurd but has been ſaid or done by a philoſopher; for the words and actions of a philoſopher move together.

Now I have quoted theſe authorities I ſhall proceed with confidence and reſolution, for the more extravagant the picture, the nearer will it aſſimilate human nature.

CHAP.

CHAP. VI.

By the rule ſettled in the preceding chapter, human nature is moſt naturally deſcribed in this.

THE *coup d'œuls* ſtartled my grandfather, but ſoon recovering himſelf he addreſſed them, with uncouth politeneſs, to this effect:

Riſe, my fair queen..... my deareſt daughter now.... then ſmiling at his ſon, how fares my child? and whiſpering ſaid, does not gratitude prompt you to thank me for all this?.... a good education is far better than a good eſtate, it directs a man to take the tide of fortune, which drives him on to endleſs proſperity.... then pulling him by the ſleeve,

ſleeve, whiſpers again.... who is ſhe my boy?.... a fine woman!.... empreſs of Ruſſia I ſuppoſe?

No ſir (replied the 'ſquire) it is the reſurrection of the empreſs of Rome: ſhe was recounted dead, but I flew to her aſſiſtance, and reſtored her to life, and ſhe has rewarded me with her perſon.

And her fortune of courſe (rejoined the diſintereſted old gentleman) prodigious!.... my generous queen..... Room, did you ſay? Room.... what; Room I take to be the capital of Germany... I hope it is not in Holland.... and ſo ſhe is the empreſs of Room, that vaſt, that immenſe country.... are you ſurely married?.... where are her attendants?.... what have you done with Mr. Schiſm?.... he will be biſhop of Roſen-

Roſenbrug, or ſome Brug or other I ſuppoſe .... but have you certainly ſecured her?

My father, with more nature than ſagacity, anſwered very ſimply, her nobles and the reſt of her numerous retinue, were left at Canterbury.

By this time the emiſſaries of juſtice (like angry Jove) approached in thunder, and in a threatening tone of voice, enquired for one Simon Sapſkull, a youth about twenty years of age, with a painted proſtitute of forty-five, who had ſheltered themſelves beneath that roof, bellowing out revenge againſt them both.

The liſtening baronet and the nobility which encircled him, were awed by the tumult; but my grandfather, who had a very

very particular averſion to ſober taciturnity, ſoon inverted the order of ſilence, by reſtoring the organs of ſpeech to their uſual offices.

I ſuppoſe, ſaid he, theſe vociferous gentlemen below ſtairs, are the embaſſadors ſent to reſcue your highneſs from the embraces of my ſon.... but I muſt own it offends me much, that they ſhould pay no more reſpect to his name, but uſe it with ſuch rude familiarity.

Hark! .... I declare the noiſe encreaſes!.... and I proteſt their invectives ſtill more ſcurrilous! .... I cannot, nay muſt not ſuffer theſe indignities to paſs unreproved.... I am afraid uncorrected!

For know, proud ſirs, the Sapſkulls.... are as proud as any of you, and that the wealth-

wealthieſt and moſt potent monarchs of the eaſt, never thought it a diſgrace to be nearly allied to the Sapſkulls.... and never bluſhed to acknowledge it, by entertaining them neareſt to their perſons, and appointing them to the firſt employments under the government.... order them to come inſtantly before me.

Fury and rage appeared conſpicuous in the furrow'd front and contracted brow of my grandfather.... when the chamber door opened, and diſcovered the angry executors of juſtice, with malicious grin.

He exhorted them to patience.... deſired they would deliver their credentials with temper and ſobriety, that he might know their authority, and the extent of their commiſſion.... that he ſhould then

be the better able to reconcile their uneaſineſs, by convincing them of their error, and prove to their ſatisfaction the antiquity of his name, and the real dignity of his family and connections .... the Sapſkulls, ſirs, are no inconſiderable people.

He uttered theſe words in broken accents, being almoſt ſuffocated in labouring to conceal his paſſion; but what marked the diſorder of his mind much ſtronger, was, that notwithſtanding his optic-nerves were ſtrained to their utmoſt ſtretch, that his eyes appeared ſtarting from their ſockets, yet he was ſo blinded by the vapours of pride productive prejudice. He ſaw not theſe ſubſtituted potentates, thoſe imaginary ſtate deputies, that had ſo perplexed and chagrined him, were as r..gged as an abortive jack aſs, and no higher

higher character, or rank in life, than thoſe remorſeleſs blood hounds of the law, called bailiffs; thoſe out-caſts of ſociety .... ſcare-crows to the ſlightly extravagant ..... the terror of young men .... nature's abhorrence .... abandoned and forſaken by all the world .... Dreadfull office!

They threw their heads in brutiſh politeneſs, at my grandfather, and in hoarſe cadence told him, they did not underſtand his ſlang .... that they were ſent from his worſhip, 'ſquire Aromatic, a juſtice of peace, and an eminent cheeſemonger at Canterbury (the baronet held his noſe at the information) with a warrant to apprehend one Simon Sapſkull, for being concerned with one Penelope Weepwell, ſpinſter, that vagabond huſſey there (pointing to the baronet's daughter-

in-law, whoſe artfull complection luckily concealed the bluſh of conviction) in robbing an actor man, the maſter of a ſtrolling company to which ſhe belonged, of thoſe fine cloaths which cover her filthy hide, forſooth, and thoſe ſhining thingam, thangams, which gliſter upon her head.

How looked my grandfather at this declaration .... with jaws expanded .... brows united .... eyes diſtorted ... face ludicrouſly extended to the length of an ordinary man's arm .... the whole countenance was the legible tranſcript of his perturbed ſoul .... with hideous grin, ſtaring at his queen daughter .... he looked .... like Time upon a monument ſcowling at Fame.

But

But how looked the young 'ſquire and his empreſs?

He in ſullen ſilence leered downward, ſtill keeping the corner of his eye upon the look out, to watch the motion of his angry incenſed father .... his limbs trembling, and his whole function quite diſordered .... he wanted courage to look danger in the face, and take a full ſurvey of the dreadful poſture of affairs, to behold the gathering ſtorm, fearfully collecting in the face of the baronet, and ſtrength to eſcape it.

Madam Weepwell, who was a perfect miſtreſs of her mimic trade, and oft had been accuſtomed to the gales of paſſion, and the wreck of features, ſeemed quite compoſed, and with eaſy negligence toſſed her head, ſmiling as in ſcorn.

As winds, pent up within the bowels of the earth, by the earth's weight compreſſed, grumbles for vent, and frights the world, ſo did the tempeſt of contending paſſions convulſe the baronet; an hollow noiſe roared inward, no ſound diſtinct was heard, but inarticulate murmurs ſtruck the affrighted wretches with aggravated fear, dreading the fatal conſequence.

Madam (who for the future muſt be complimented with the name of Sapſkull) was one of thoſe intriguing wits, whoſe genius ſeldom fails when puſhed to the extremity .... Her limbs, well formed by nature, had been found pleaſing in many natural purpoſes .... Her joints ſo pliant, and her body ſo elaſtic, that upon ſome occaſions (it has been ſaid by thoſe who were acquainted with all

all her movements) ſhe therein confuted the impoſſibility of the great ſir Iſaac Newton by her perpetual motion.

She took the advantage of their ſtupid aſtoniſhment, and made a very regular, though precipitate retreat, leaving the butler to lament, and make good, the loſs of a ſilver tankard, which unluckily ſtood in her way, that had been the hoſpitable tenant of that hall, time immemorial .... As it was early in the morning, ſhe paſſed almoſt uninterrupted, and we heard afterwards by thoſe few, who ſaw her, and endeavoured to intercept her flight, that ſhe entreated them not to impede her, for ſhe was an unhappy fugitive, flying the ſeverity of a cruel huſband.

As this is only the ſecond act which carries with it a ſuſpicion of diſhoneſty, that we can charge the lady with, we muſt in charity permit her to eſcape, in hopes ſhe may in time reform, and become the object of eſteem and regard, that her future conduct may give credit to her vocation, which I am afraid is too much wanted among thoſe itinerant gentry.

As I would wiſh your approbation went with me through every chapter, I will halt a little to aſk you how you like it? .... and whether by the rule of abſurdity, you do not conſider this a very natural tranſaction?

CHAP.

CHAP. VII.

Pride ſuffers the ſevereſt mortifications.

WE will now re-aſcend, and rejoin the good company above ſtairs, who we ſhall find ſtill motionleſs, ſtaring in dumb ſurprize .... after various attempts, and many preparatory hums and haws, ſir Bartholomew at length recovered his ſpeech, and addreſſed himſelf in the following manner to thoſe ragged ruffins, who were commiſſioned by the worſhipful cheeſemonger to ſeize and bring before him, or ſome other magiſtrate, the bodies of Simon Sapſkull and Penelope Weepwell.

You muſt know, fellows .... it is to you I am ſpeaking .... that I am a baronet

ronet of England, and a moſt powerful juſtice of the quorum .... and my arm, ay ſir, my ſingle arm extended, can reach to the utmoſt verge of the four counties encircling this metropolis, in ſpite of thoſe trading magiſtrates, who deal out juſtice in the ſame penurious ſlovenly manner, as they deal out their naſty commodities.

Here my grandfather, with a becoming pride, exhibited a charge of reſentment againſt the indignity too frequently offered to the authority of magiſtrates, by appointing a lower claſs of people to that important office.

I will pauſe awhile and conſider in what manner I ſhall execute my juſt reſentment on this preſumptuous mercenary magiſtrate, the cheeſemonger you were

were ſpeaking of.... in the mean time go you, and drag that ſaucy ſtrumpet before me.

And pleaſe your honoured worſhip, replied the bailiffs, ſhe has eloped long ago.

Eloped ſay you (my grandfather exerting his vocal faculties) purſue her then inſtantly.... let me not behold your faces again till you produce her.

The officers, who did not much reliſh the haſty baronet, waited not for a ſecond command, but flew his preſence with as much ſpeed and eagerneſs, as an hungry greyhound after the timid hare, or as themſelves inſatiably purſuing the deſtruction of their fellow-creatures.... amazing there ſhould be ſuch unfeeling, unge-

ungenerous monſters in the world, and pity it is there ſhould be occaſion for them.

Maſter Simon, whoſe ſenſes, very luckily, had long before taken fright, and left him quite deſtitute, ſo that he neither ſaw, heard or felt, his fears had ſo relaxed his nerves that his arms hung dangling .... his head drooped impending .... and the whole figure rivetted to the ground by the weight of ſtupidity.

This attitudinarian kept firm to his poſition, during a tedious recital of acrimonious invectives, and irefull curſes, moſt liberally, and moſt emphatically beſtowed on him by the baronet.

After ſumming up the whole charge, he concluded with declaring, that the wtetch

wretch his mother had played him foul, and that he could be no other than the miſerable offspring of ſome baſe low-minded ſcoundrel.... then enjoined his ſervants on pain of his diſpleaſure, to remove the 'ſquire to his country ſeat, and there keep him in cloſe confinement till he (the baronet) ſhould think proper to enlarge him.

We will now part from this angry man, whoſe churliſh unſociable diſpoſition, renders him very diſagreeable unprofitable company, and as pride is the incentive, there appears but little reaſon to expect an amendment, ſo we will take no farther notice of him, but leave him to his paſſions, which will prove a ſufficient puniſhment.... His ungenerous ſuſpicions will always haunt him, and his contempt of mankind, like a raging

raging peſtilence, will infect his brain, that his diſtempered mind, ſickened by falſe conceptions, will find no peace .... no intermitting joy .... no reſpite from his imaginary torments .... till nature claims her due .... till death, the general gaol deliverer, who relieves alike the beggar and the peer, ſhall ſhake off the fetters of mortality, and humble him to the duſt .... Then he may find a refuge from his thoughts.

Weary reader, your ſtretching and yawning convinces me, that I have almoſt preached you into the vapours .... We will therefore inſtantly quit this ſerious topic, and endeavour to diſſipate the cloud of melancholy, by the enlivening intrigues of our late ingenious ſparkler, Madam Sapſkull, whoſe gay, chearful diſpoſition, is a laughing antidote

dote for the ſpleen and her jaundiced retinue.

CHAP. VIII.

No falſe conception but a miraculous birth.

IF we may venture to break through the order of time and place; and be content to loſe a few hours (which is a very common extravagance in life) we ſhall find the merry lady at Canterbury, in a *téte a téte* party with her old maſter Mr. Whim, whoſe furious reſentment ſhe had calmed, and effectually reconciled him to her friendſhip, by politely yielding without reſerve to his deſires, and ſubſtituting him in the place of her poor huſband, to be the conſummator of her nuptials.

I fear

I fear I have betrayed too much . . . . but where is the miſchief? . . . Wandering actreſſes, like heroins of faſhion, act in defiance of ſcandal, and carry the banner of incontinence without a bluſh, that even proſtitution herſelf is aſhamed of them.

What am I ſaying? . . . worſe and worſe, by endeavouring to palliate my error, I magnify my tranſgreſſion . . . . for by theſe invidious declarations, I have violated my firſt principle, of ſpeaking well of every one, and politically conſidered, every one ſhould be ſpoken well of, as it is the ſureſt method to induce every one to deſerve it . . . . But I forfeited all pretenſions to the character of a politician, when I firſt undertook writing the memoirs of the Sapſkull family, as

as truth and politics are ever at variance.

I have known the abandoned Antinomius, who lived in oppoſition to all law, human and divine, weep at the recital of ſome glorious action, and rejoice in the virtues of another.... I have known him to (upon reformation principles) ſet aſide all honourable diſtinctions, every endearing tie of affection, to ſacrifice his once gay companion and friend, to the inveterate reſentment of an angry ſet of men, for having in his poſſeſſion the blaſphemous works of another perſon, which Antinomius himſelf had often read and enjoyed.... Antinomius is the firſt man would move to puniſh impiety, notwithſtanding he is jealous of every man, who attempts to be more impious than himſelf.... yet

from filtering theſe dregs ſome good may be recovered....the ſoil is rich, but ſo unſkilfully managed, that the latent ſeeds of nobility periſh in the womb, which, if properly nouriſhed, would bloom into comelineſs .... Unluckily the bud of folly and licentiouſneſs being early engrafted on this ſtem of generoſity, it grew exuberant, and ſpread its envious branches o'er each thriving plant, whoſe baleful ſhade ſickened the fruitful herbage, which Providence deſigned to bleſs mankind .... This is a character which all the world muſt know, and (if not improved) every honeſt man muſt wiſh to avoid.

From a partial regard to my friends, I am again wandering out of my way, but I plead guilty, and throw myſelf on the mercy of my readers, therefore do not

not be ſparing in your cenſure, for you will find in the courſe of theſe memoirs, I ſtand in need of correction.

But not to loſe the lady in the cloud of moral affectation, her affairs were compromiſed, and both parties ſeemed pleaſed at the reconciliation.

A ſtrolling company of players are the wandering planets of the earth, who keep in a conſtant regular motion, and appear in the different parts of the terreſtial globe at particular periods, and our ſublunary conſtellations having gone their courſe, and made their appearance to a regular exactneſs, and nothing happening in this revolution but ordinary occurrences, ſuch as an alderman's daughter having given an extuberated proof of her ſingular affection for young

Romeo, and the fair Juliet receiving an orthodox ſalute from the vicar of a certain pariſh, to the great diſorder and confuſion of his luſty helpmate.... We will therefore paſs over minute matters, which may have caſually happened, too trivial to juſtify ſuch an intruſion, and return to our orb of light, which we ſhall find ſetting in the weſt.

I fear I ſhall be thought too licentious in this ungramatical compariſon, but as ſhe was by far the brighteſt luminary, I hope it will apologize for the liberty.

As few ladies are aſtronomers, and indeed there are but very few gentlemen, whoſe boaſt of learning extend ſo far, as to deduce certain diſtances of time, by the circular movements of terreſtial bodies; I ſhall therefore, by a ſuperior

perior talent compute it to myſelf, and then inform my readers, that it is two years and a half ſince Madam Sapſkull was inhumanly ſeparated from her lawful huſband.

But not to depreſs and lower your ſpirits with refining upon the misfortunes of this lady, we will drop the calamitous part of her hiſtory, and behold her in the zenith of her felicity, performing all the principal characters at Saliſbury, with the greateſt reputation and applauſe.

It will not be here improper to note, that ſo great is the infatuation of playing, and the ſecret ſatisfaction of being the prima of a company ſo prevalent, that theſe magnanimous buſkineers would be better contented to make a ſalutary

meal upon raw turnips, to the great mortification of their inſatiable appetites, and perform a principal character, than riot upon the moſt luxurious repaſt, and be obliged at night to appear upon the ſtage a dumb waiter, or a Roman ambaſſador.

This is the true unfeigned diſpoſition of theſe gentry, as explained to me by one of their brethren, who has long ſince deſerted their ſervice, for a company in an old regiment in the ſervice of his majeſty, ſo by a ſudden ſtart of fortune (ſuch ſtarts are naturally conſidered as military convulſions, for they affect and diſorder the whole corps) was preferred from Serjeant Kite to Captain ——— to the honour of the army, and credit of his patron.

As

As this gentleman's ſcene of life has ſuffered many changes, his ſtory will make a conſpicuous figure in the hiſtory of the Sapſkulls, and it ſhall be faithfully recorded at a proper time, and in a proper place.

Some ladies living in the vicinity of Saliſbury, commanded the Tragedy of Ulyſſes to be got up and played for their particular entertainment on ſuch a night, and upon thoſe occaſions the theatrical barn is generally filled.... It happened that theſe were ladies of good eſtimation in the city, therefore their friends, and the trades-people they dealt with, payed them a more than ordinary compliment, and the company had now the pleaſure of ſeeing a more numerous audience, than they had beheld for ſome time.... Every one of the

actors was elated with the proſpect of ſharing enough to rub out a ſmall ſcore at the chandler's .... pay ſome botcher for ſeating their tragedy breeches, and repairing certain chaſms, which the ſharp pointed bones had drilled through the elbows of their laced frocks .... and Madam Sapſkull alſo exerted herſelf more than common, perhaps for reaſons not differing much from the ſhabby heroes before-mentioned.

In that particular ſcene, where Penelope is going to the altar to make her vows of chaſtity during the abſence of her Lord Ulyſſes, Madam Sapſkull was ſuddenly ſeized with the moſt excruciating pains, and in the ſeverity of her diſtreſs, too delicate to ſuſtain the ſudden unexpected ſhock, fell to the ground; but before the audience could be informed

formed whether the ſtrange emotion was real or imaginary (for players, and great ones too, frequently make uſe of violent methods to extort applauſe) the crying of a child convinced them that madam was in labour, and (thank heaven) was likely to have a very good time.

When circumſtances are conſidered, the cenſorious detractor muſt be ready enough to charge Madam Sapſkull with incontinence, as her huſband and ſhe lived in different parts of the world, and had no ſort of correſpondence or connexion one with the other for ſo long a time.

Appearances are certainly againſt her; however nature is wonderful in her ſympathies! We have known that ſtorms conceived in the ſouth, have ſhaken the north-

northern pole, and broke out in ſtrange eruptions!

Where is the wonder then? .... For 'ſquire Sapſkull in his confinement, no doubt, wafted the ſigh of affection to his choſen wife, and the amorous lady ſucked in the prolific air, and ſhe conceived.

Natural enough, and what has frequently happened in many noble and worthy families, whoſe good name has been tortured by the ignorant .... indeed there is nothing againſt it but the perſonal evidence and conduct of our preſent race of nobility, who, from a certain uniformity of face and behaviour, preſent to the world a mean and doubtful certificate of their legitimacy.

Beſides,

Beſides, there is one Mr. Virgil, a gentleman of great reputation in the records of antiquity, who relates a ſimilar ſtory of the Luſitanian mares; but as that old gentleman told his tale in a foreign language, I ſhall call in Mr. Dryden to be his interpreter, who ſpeaks for him in this manner:

When at the ſpring's approach their marrow burns,
(For with the ſpring their genial heat returns)
The mares to cliffs of rugged rocks repair,
And with wide noſtrils ſnuff the weſtern air:
When, wond'rous to relate, the parent wind,
Without the ſtallion, propagates the kind.

And the Genoeſe have a ſaying; *gli mariti ingravi dano cor moglie cento miglia lontano*; huſbands get their wives with child an hundred miles off.

But be it as it may, by ſome pleaſing accident or other, myſelf, the hero of the

the following memoirs, was introduced to life; ſome few who ſaw my public entry, and had been argued into a favourable opinion of my mother's chaſtity, conſidered me as a phenomenon... whilſt ſteril dames, of moſt ill-natured virtue, condemned the vices of the age.... others were puzzled and confuſed, unable to reconcile ſuch ſeeming improbabilities; but to the honour of the laſt, they were ſo conſcientious as not to let their ignorance looſe to run over the reputation of a perſon they knew little of.

Ye men of ſlow capacities, who cannot account for ſuch ſtrange conceptions, I refer ye to thoſe ingenious philoſophers at the Robin Hood in Butcher-Row, whoſe illuſtrious diſputations, explain the wonderful ſubtility in the operations of nature,

nature, and the powerful effects of ſympathy.

As theſe gentlemen are men of learning and knowledge, I think I cannot paſs you a civiller compliment, than to introduce them to your acquaintance, when you are at leiſure to receive ſuch company.

As Madam Sapſkull is in an odd helpleſs ſituation, delicacy commands us awhile to drop the curtain, and during the neceſſary ſuſpenſion you muſt ſuppoſe every one is buſy in clouting the child... doing ſome cleanly offices to Madam... and putting her decently to bed.

CHAP.

CHAP. IX.

Delicacy (real or affected) a material ingredient in the compoſition of a lady .... Indelicacy (in prying into their neighbours conduct) claims a ſhare in the ſame compoſition.

THE night was ſtill!.... no noiſe was heard portentous at my birth! Heaven ſeemed unconcerned.

Ye men of deep reſearches, whoſe ſubtle art can penetrate the ſecrets of nature, anticipate my fate .... Cudgell your brains and tell me what I ſhall be!

And for the particular ſatisfaction and amuſement of thoſe who cannot ſquint into futurity, I ſhall now ſet out with them

them on my excurſions through life .... but before I proceed further, muſt beg leave to premiſe, that

The curious readers, who are my companions in the tour, will arrive at the laſt ſtage, ſufficiently fatigued with their journey .... for travelling through lives and adventures is as tedious, as travelling in a waggon; for the long lifeleſs round about narratives in one, like the ſlow wheeling of the other, ſtupifies the ſenſes, ſo that you creep blundering on, as in a reſtleſs dream, and heartily repent of your undertaking before you get half way; and to illuſtrate my ſimile, I am afraid there is to be found but ſorry entertainment in both.

My mother was hardly warm in her bed when ſome merry wags, whoſe humour had

had got the upper hand of their conſcience, laughed away the reputation of the poor lady, by telling the moſt comical lies that ever were invented, for ſuch cruel, ungenerous purpoſes.

The joke tranſpired..... Alderman Porridgepot the brazier, was enraged at the protuberance of his daughter.

Envious five and forty, with lowering brow, ſnarled at the ſhameful ſex, and particularly inveighed againſt Madam Sapſkull for her late public ejection.... that ſuch open indecencies were inſults upon the whole ſex, and ſuch an invincible ſhock to modeſty, they ſhould never be able to get the better of it, and wondered how they ſhould look any man in the face for the future.

And

And the capacious baggage of divinity, who like her huſband's barn, refuſes nothing, and envies every body's incloſure, which is better fed than her own, grudged Madam Sapſkull that warm ſalute, which her ſpiritual governor ſo very ſeldom beſtowed on her.... grown angry by her jealouſy and diſappointment, ſhe furious lady joined the vengeful throng.

This formidable body, armed in the cauſe of injured modeſty, were determined to give no quarter; they hurried to the town hall, where the court of aldermen was then ſitting, and preferred their ſeveral complaints in form, againſt the ſenſual community (as they were pleaſed in their diſpleaſure to call the company) which had the effect deſired..... for

Notwithſtanding my mother had ſome very potent advocates to defend her, the fat-headed majority, intoxicated by the fumes of exceſs .... or like the majority in a more reſpectable aſſembly, had ſome plan of private intereſt to accompliſh .... over-ruled the plea made in her defence, and diſpatched a cruel mandate, commanding them to evacuate the town, within twenty-four hours, on pain of.....

No body dare ſay what the hand of power can inflict.

The mayor (for that time being) who perhaps had more humanity than conduct (for good-nature is too often cenſured) and whoſe nobility of ſoul could not ſubmit to encourage little meanneſſes, or entertain ungenerous ſuſpicions of his wife

wife and daughters.... ſent a kind conſolatory epiſtle to madam in the ſtraw... to calm the diſorder which the uncharitable meſſage ſhe had before received, muſt naturally have occaſioned.

He pleaded ignorance as the cauſe of their ſeverity, and aſſured her that for his particular part, he had exerted all his force.... all his rhetorical powers to influence the court in her favour .... but alas! .... his eloquence was too weak to reſiſt the torrent of prejudice.

That what ſtrengthened their information, and gave an unfavourable turn to the whole affair, was a complaint from one of his worſhipful brethren againſt a certain perſon of their company (meaning the company Madam Sapſkull had enliſted into) for deflowering his only child,

and entailing perpetual diſgrace and infamy upon his family.

That there was no ſtanding againſt the united efforts of the whole corporation, who will always, and upon every occaſion, feel for one another, though the pores of ſenſation may be cloſed againſt the ſufferings of the reſt of mankind.... but it is the ſame with all bodies... that ſort of partiality is not peculiar to us.... and all degrees of people know it, from the firſt peer in the kingdom to the Iriſh chairman who carries his lordſhip to ſit upon the trial of Lord B—

I will illuſtrate this obſervation, by a ſhort dialogue which paſſed between two Iriſh ponies, in a cellar near Weſtminſter Hall, upon the melancholy event above hinted.

1ſt Poney.

1ſt Poney. I am afraid the lords are putting their heads together to leſſen the number . . . . and I am ſure the little gentleman cannot afford to be a head ſhorter.

2d Poney. The devil a fear on't my jewel.

1ſt Poney. Faith and I am uneaſy for all that . . . for it will be very uncomfortable for a gentleman of his delicacy, to wear his hat under his arm in all weathers.

2d Poney. But why under his arm, my dear?

1ſt Poney. Why under his arm? . . . . becauſe his brother raps intend to take his head from him.

2d Poney. Blood and ounds but your ſkull is as tick as a Munſter potatoe . . . .

and do you think if I was to be be tried by a jury of Pack-horſes but they would find me guilty? .... Your imagination is as foggy as the Blind-quay at Bartholomew-tide ..... The Manœuvres in the firſt ſtud in the kingdom, are too ſprightly and too complexed for ſuch a garron as you to conceive.

And ſince nothing could be done for her relief, he adviſed patience in affliction, and entreated her not to ſuffer the ſtorm of paſſion to fatigue her ſpirits, which might hurry her into diſtreſsful agonies .... and recommended reaſon as her guide .... with many compliments to her ſuperior ſenſe and underſtanding .... that as he was a profeſſed friend to mankind in general, he therefore meant only to prove himſelf a friend to her

her .... in particular he ſhould have rejoined, as he was a candidate for her favour.

And as particular buſineſs hurried him to London, he had provided a convenient machine for that purpoſe, the front ſide of which was at her diſpoſal, that every thing would be ready at a certain place for departure in a couple of hours, or three at fartheſt, and that if the offer was worthy her acceptance, earneſtly begged ſhe would cloath herſelf and the infant with more than ordinary care, that they might not hazard any inconvenience from ſo long a journey.

My mother, who was a lady of a moſt happy conſtitution, rejoiced at the opportunity, and being of a pleaſant turn of mind, laughed at the adventure ....

but not to give her behaviour the appearance of levity at this ſerious juncture, ſhe diſmiſſed her riſible attendants, and returned a moſt polite anſwer to her worthy benefactor, to thank him for his uncommon gentleneſs.

She told him he was liberal to an object totally undeſerving .... that ſhe could not help admiring his virtue, and laſtly, that as he had no diſhonourable views by his propoſal, ſhe thought if ſhe did accept his favour, ſhe could reconcile her behaviour to diſcretion; for as matrimony was a ſanction to both, ſhe run no riſque of blotting her reputation.

That ſhe would ſtrictly obſerve what he kindly adviſed, and if he would ſend the carriage, ſhe would be ready to meet him at the time and place he fixed for

their departure, praying to heaven that her delicacy might not be ſuſpected, in boldly intruding on a good man's generoſity.

As the mayor's character will bear the ſtricteſt ſcrutiny, and as all his future actions will be conſiſtent with true greatneſs, I think I ought not to be aſhamed to do the gentleman this public juſtice, by telling the world his name is Ipecacuanha, that he is eminent in the profeſſion of phyſic, and does not live many leagues from the city of Saliſbury.

As the mayor, who was ever tenacious of his word upon the moſt trivial occaſions, it is no wonder, therefore, if he kept it upon this, and came exactly to his appointed time.

The

The coach approached ratling through the ſtreets, which brought my mother to the door, when ſhe jumped into it, as gay and as ſprightly as a youthful bride; but for me I was ſwaddled in my urinated blankets, and with a careleſs air tumbled into the ſeat, as a proper receptacle for brawling brats .... indeed it anſwered every purpoſe of a cradle, as the motion of the coach ſhook me to ſleep, and prevented my being troubleſome to the other paſſengers, at leaſt as little as poſſible.

In this alacrity of my mother, ſhe wiſely conſidered that a delay would give an opportunity to the curious neighbours to ſhew their impertinence, who never fail upon ſuch alarms to leave their buſineſs with eager precipitation, to gaze on every thing that is going forward in the vici-

vicinity, and thereby furniſh a theme for the ingenious ſlanderer.

This precaution of my mother prudently prevented it, and in all probability ſaved her friend a great deal of undeſerved, ill-grounded cenſure, for the coach left the door, before decrepitude could hobble to the window . . . Younger people, who enjoy the vigour of health, and who are ſtill in poſſeſſion of the power of attraction, are diverted (by the management of their own intrigues) from examining into the conduct of others.

I hope ladies, who move in a genteel ſphere of life, are above taking ſuch mean advantages, as to ſuperviſe the actions of their neighbours, and infer great things from trivial cauſes . . . . I am confident thoſe of a more exalted ſtation

can

can never bend to ſuch indignities . . . . Generoſity is the ſtamp of greatneſs, it is from this mark I can diſtinguiſh all my readers . . . . . And now we will make the beſt of our way to London.

CHAP. X.

The provoked wife, or a journey to London.

THEY ſet out . . . . many genteel tender things were whiſpered by the mayor in praiſe of Madam Sapſkull's beauty . . . . and many deep fetched ſighs when he mentioned the ſeverity of her fortune.

She, whoſe face glowed with the bloom of modeſty, bluſhed her acknowledgments, and in turn obſerved, that thoſe who

who preſented her to the corporation, preſſed rather too hard upon her .... that her unhappy condition demanded pity from every one .... that in the cruelty of their proſecution, chriſtianity had loſt its name .... that the ſofter ſex forgot their humanity, and hoſpitality was as great a ſtranger among them as ſhe was.

A briny torrent ſtreamed down her faded cheeks, when ſhe pathetically pronounced forgiveneſs to all her enemies ... and after a ſhort pauſe blubbered out her thanks to heaven, that had given her philoſophy to withſtand this laſt ſhock of fate.

I muſt here beg leave to ſay ſomething in defence of this much abuſed word philoſophy, and endeavour to reſcue

cue it from the poſſeſſion of witlings, and if I cannot do it juſtice, I will at leaſt do it the honour of a new chapter.

CHAP. XI.

On philoſophy, containing nothing philoſophical.

THE word philoſophy is a commodity very unfairly ſmuggled by the ignorant, who, by not taxing it with any duty either to God or man, undervalues its conſequence, by diſpoſing of it moſt inconſiderately!..... It is the wealthieſt citizen robbed of its property, and become the pooreſt bankrupt.... A needy ſubſtitute, who like an Old Baily ſolicitor, is advocate in the meaneſt cauſes!.... It is the paltry apologiſt, when

when a woman wants hypocriſy to weep at, her huſband's funeral! .... A gameſter's reſolution, and often vindicates the hardened criminal, who, having loſt all ſenſation, ſmiles at his execution! A poor expletive which ſerves to fill up the vacancy of thought, and add ſolemnity to a ſilly ſentiment! ..... A common word, wantonly uſed, and proſtituted to the vileſt purpoſes ..... To conclude, it is the greateſt word, uſed upon the moſt trifling occaſions.

CHAP. XII.

Journey to London continued.

BUT not to forget our friends in the hour of affliction, let us return to the coach, where we ſhall find my mother

ther weeping at the unbecoming barbarities of her own ſex, and extolling the humanity of ours.

And the tender-hearted apothecary, ſenſibly affected by her diſtreſs, gave her ſigh for ſigh, and tear for tear, lamenting her cruel ſituation.

He gently preſſed her hand, fair as the lilly, as the lilly ſoft.... Temptation ſtrong to men of vulgar paſſions.... but Mr. Ipecacuanha, actuated by nobler ſentiments, only meant to vivify the languid ſpirits, and encourage the pulſe to beat regularly.

That the profeſſion may not ſuffer by wanton ſuſpicions, be aſſured a familiar ſqueeze, is no more than the ordinary, nay, ſometimes neceſſary prelude to the

the medicinal farce .... Spha.... I mean proceſs.... and oftentimes a great ſtimulative to ſlow conſtitutions, that warming the frigid maſs, quickens the circulation, and inſinuates the ſanguine ſtream into its natural channel.

He then pulled out of his pocket a large phial of thermantic ingredients, which he had prepared for Madam Sapſkull the night before, applied it to her mouth, and entreated her to drink plentifully, that it would invigorate her animal ſpirits, and give her new life.

My mother taſting the curious compound, and finding it ſeaſoned to her palate, implicitly obeyed the doctor's requeſt and took an immoderate draught of this powerful potation.

Mr. Ipecacuanha then begged that ſhe would forget her misfortunes, and not refine too much upon the common accidents of life.

As apothecaries are generally men of ſome learning, and may be ſuppoſed to know (or at leaſt gueſs) the foibles incident to human nature, ſo Mr. Ipecacuanha, from that ſort of cunning or knowledge, took the moſt effectual method to harmonize her thoughts, by touching the maſter-ſtring of her genius.

The ſporting 'ſquire is never ſo eloquent as when he is praiſing a favourite horſe or a ſtaunch hound ... The greedy miniſter of ſtate upon ways and means ..... The beardleſs doctor, of moſt ſagacious perriwig, in expatiating on the *Materia Medica* .... The jugling prieſt, artfully ſilent,

ſilent, is ever loquacious when propagating the abſurd doctrine of tranſubſtantiation .... The neglected harlot upon chaſtity .... And the wandering player upon the uſe and abuſe of the ſtage.

It was ſtarting this laſt ſubject (which indeed is a ſubject too much in faſhion, and marks the levity of our manners, and the poverty of our underſtanding) luckily gave a turn to the converſation, and my mother opened and enlarged upon the dignity and antiquity of the ſtage.

As we muſt keep pace with our fellow travellers, we muſt calculate their hours of baiting, that we may refreſh ourſelves at the ſame time ..... To manage this affair with preciſion, we muſt firſt ſuppoſe the corporation met

at eleven . . . . . Madam Sapſkull was ordered to evacuate the city at twelve . . . . . And the coach ready to convey her away at three . . . . . By this retroſpect we are certain as to the time of the different operations, from the winding up of the Alderman's reſolution, to the departure of Madam Sapſkull.

It being after dinner before they left Saliſbury, we will ſuppoſe they are now drinking tea at Andover.

CHAP.

CHAP. XIII.

Journey to London continued.

WE will paſs over the impertinent and unmeaning punctilios of the tea-table .... An effeminate cuſtom firſt introduced, and now practiſed by women, who having more leiſure than prudence can fill up, dedicate a certain portion of every day to idleneſs and folly.

Tea-drinking is an enemy to ſociety, by enervating the body .... weakening the underſtanding, and reducing that lordly creature man to the level of a goſſip .... Society reciprocates the advantage to both ſexes .... As the converſation of women properly conducted,

ſoftens the manners, and humanizes the temper of mankind to a certain meaſure of complacency, that the ladies, like Pygmalion, admire the workmanſhip of their own hands .... So the converſation of men, prudently reſtrained, invigorates the mind of women to that maſculine degree of ſtrength, which at once renders them an honour to their own ſex.... the adoration of ours.... and... enter the waiter to inform you the horſes are to.... the company is in the coach.

My mother reſumes the ſubject .... That at Athens the actors were generally perſons of good birth and education, for the moſt part orators or poets of the firſt rank .... Sometimes we find kings themſelves performing on the theatres... Alexander the great was ſo partial a favourer of the actors in his time, that he

paid

paid the fine which the Athenians impoſed on Athenodorus, for being abſent from the feſtival celebrated in honour of Bacchus. . . He alſo complimented Lyton of Scarphia with a preſent of ten talents . . . . and commiſſioned Theſalus to take a journey into Caria, to perſuade Poxodorus to give Alexander his daughter in marriage, in preference to Aridæus. And

Cornelius Nepos aſſures us, that to appear on the public ſtage, was not the leaſt injurious to any man's character or honour.

The Hiſtriones of Rome were not ſo univerſally reſpected, for the ſame reaſon that too many of the players are deſpiſed here . . . . not from their being actors, but from their being men of mean

education .... looſe morals and bad conduct .... for if any of them were found to be excellent artiſts, or men of decent deportment and good character, they never failed of the eſteem and reſpect of the firſt perſons in the commonwealth.

This is evident from the account we have in hiſtory of the admirable Roſcius, of whom Tully his familiar friend, has left this laſting commendation. "So "compleat an artiſt, that he ſeemed the "only perſon who deſerved to tread the "ſtage .... and yet at the ſame time ſo "excellent a man in all other reſpects, "that he ſeemed the only perſon, who "of all men, ſhould not take up that "profeſſion."

I wiſh

I wiſh the Roſcius's of our time would think it worth their attention to copy the character of that amiable Roman, and not to ſuffer their ambition to run wild, and bend their views to the idle buſineſs of wooing the affections of every careleſs lady of faſhion, or every profligate woman of no faſhion at all.... it is much the ſame with them .... to make a property of their rank or perſons, only that they may enjoy the reputation of an intrigue, and pride themſelves upon a conqueſt they ought to be aſhamed of.

It is not material to trace the hiſtorical particulars of the ſtage in its original ſtate at Greece, to prove the antiquity of it.... or to enumerate the different theatres at Rome, and the vaſt dimenſions of each, to ſhew the reſpectability of it at that period.... Let it ſuffice that

that Bacchus has the honour of being the father, and that the temporary theatre at Rome, conſtructed by M. Scaurus, was ſo ſpacious, that the cavea or pit would hold eighty thouſand people! From which evidence even the fractious Collier (an enemy to the ſtage) in his moſt angry fit, muſt conclude they were much frequented, conſequently much admired at that time; and in my opinion there cannot be an higher compliment to the dignity of the ſtage, than to find the reſpectable names of Pompey the Great..... Marcellus.....Statilius Taurus..... Tiberius and Titus among the builders of theatres.... Not to omit mentioning that one of the greateſt ornaments to the city of Athens was a theatre built by Pericles.

My

My mother ſeemed perfectly ſatisfied that her memory had furniſhed her with materials to vindicate the honour of the ſtage, and convince the doctor that players were the delight of the Greeks .... the admiration of the Romans, and indeed to ſay truth, careſſed and reſpected in a very particular manner by people of the firſt faſhion of theſe times.

That (thank God) ſhe had ever met with the kindeſt uſage from the polite part of the world, with whom ſhe had been always upon the moſt intimate terms; but to be ſure (rejoined ſhe ſighing) there is no accounting for the incivility of the Goths and Vandals of ſome country towns.

Their arrival at Whitchurch put a ſtop to the converſation, where we will leave

them to their entertainment and repoſe, till the morning.

CHAP XIV.

Journey to London continued.

THE morning came, and after the good people were ſeated in the coach, my mother proceeded in her diſſertation on the modern ſtage, in which ſhe obſerved it was a deſpotic government, where ſubjects would be extremely happy under the conduct of a wiſe and generous governor .... on the contrary, when prejudice is opinion, and judgment only neceſſary in the purchaſe, not in diſtinguiſhing the intrinſic merit of a performer .... They are then only foils

to

to vanity, and the obſequious ſlaves to ſordid avarice.

She wiſhed to ſee the day, when the theatrical managers in England would imitate the rule of conduct laid down for the inſtruction and government of the Dutch theatres.

In Holland the managers take virtue by the hand, and make her the principal conſtituent in the election of a new member to their theatrical aſſembly .... and ſo nice are they in obſerving and ſupporting the decency of their inſtitution, that the firſt actreſs in their company was diſmiſſed only becauſe her belly protuberated beyond the level of her —— then preſſed her hand upon the top of her ſtays, ... and thereby gave reaſon to ſuſpect, ſhe had forfeited all pretenſions

to

to their countenance, by ſquandering her virginity in a diſhonourable manner.

Under ſuch government an actreſs becomes reſpectable .... ornamented with virtue, theatrical merit would aſſociate with ladies of the firſt rank, and faireſt reputation in private life; and as public characters are moſt exemplary, as they are moſt conſpicuous, modeſty would derive credit, and impudence be put to the bluſh, by the delicacy of our deportment.

It is not a great many years ago when the reputation of country actreſſes was thought worthy of the higheſt protection .... Pryn was ſeverely proſecuted for calling women actors .... I bluſh to repeat it .... whores in his Hiſtriomaſtix .... though (God forgive me if I judge

judge wrong) I am afraid too many deſerve the groſſeſt character, as there are too many wanton huſſeys permitted amongſt us, who make the theatre the ſhambles to expoſe their carcaſs for ſale, to every beaſtly fellow who bids for the purchaſe.

She then ſcrewed up her mouth, and with extorted reſolution .... her face looking ſimplicity and innocence ..... She deſired the coach might ſtop .... aſked pardon .... ſhe would not detain him two minutes.

This ſort of baſhfulneſs is only practiſed by the ladies of England .... Foreigners, fond of that liberty they wiſh to enjoy, ſhew it never more than upon theſe occaſions, when nature governs and preſcribes laws .... and for my own part,

part, I ſee no reaſon why my country-women ſhould invert the order of things, and wear the fetters of ſlaviſh modeſty.

As nature is arbitrary in her commands, why ſhould they be aſhamed of a compulſive obedience? .... If it were not that I am very particularly prejudiced in favour of the Engliſh ladies, I ſhould be perſuaded to ſuſpect ſuch affectations proceeded rather from pride than delicacy... for nature, like a munificent prince, having yielded to them an eſſential part of her prerogative, they take the advantage of her generoſity, and like ambitious ſubjects would arrogate the whole dominion, and refuſe to acknowledge their allegiance upon the moſt urgent occaſions .... Life is a feudal tenure, for which nature exacts homage.

Pene-

Penelope, who was the type of Diana, had the ſame draughts, and was obliged to anſwer them in the ſame manner; .... making it a matter of ceremony, renders the neceſſity leſs abſolute, and the affectation of diſtreſs forces every one to take more notice of it; ſo by a wrong method of preſerving delicacy they loſe it, and thereby an act of neceſſity becomes an act of indecency .... to be plain with my readers, it was nothing more than the cordial julip began to operate, and madam found herſelf as diuretic as an amorous greyhound .... Now the ſecret is explained I do not find one of you, under fifty, have the leaſt inclination to change countenance.

The coach ſtops .... and the lady kept her word .... for the time expended in that neceſſary ſervice was no more than

two minutes.... at her return ſhe appeared a little confuſed, and for the firſt three minutes looked at the doctor thro' the medium of her fan-ſticks.

Mr. Ipecacuanha, to eaſe the pain of baſhfulneſs, and aſſiſt the recovery, continued the article of impeachment againſt the conduct of the managers, for permitting immorality and ill-manners to ſhew their face in the theatre;.... for, ſaid he, I never ſit at the hearing of an indecent play, but it puts me in mind of the rape of the Sabines, and I tremble leſt our modern coxcombs ſhould in this one particular imitate the gallantry of the antient Romans, by repeating the ſame heroic action upon the maids and matrons confined in the different parts of the play-houſe.

I mea-

I meaſure the comparative danger from that thermometer which nature has not only given to me, but has impartially diſpenſed to all mankind.

The atmoſphere of lewdneſs is thick and heavy, and the fire which moves in the upper region of air, warms the imagination, and by compreſſing the recipient globes below, dilates and expands the ſtagnant liquor contained therein, which being once put into motion, riſes precipitately up the elaſtic tube, and by filling every veſſel and fibre as it paſſes, bloats and lengthens the paſſage to a tremendous encreaſe .... I proportion the danger to the ſwelling of the tube, for when the fluid has expanded itſelf, ſo as to ſtretch out every part to a degree of turgeſcence, and raiſes it above the level of moderation, depend upon it, in that

eſſerveſcent ſtate, human nature is ſtark mad.... the cataplaſm of reaſon contributes very little to cool and digeſt the tumour, when the paſſions are ſo violently agitated.

The ſtruggles of continence!.... the tears of innocence!.... the coyneſs of ſtale virginity, and the arguments of the more experienced wives and widows would avail little when oppoſed to ſuch unruly members, in the height of vigour, and in confidence of ſucceſs.... What reſiſtance could female delicacy make againſt an attack of ſuch a furious kind?.... All they could do, would be nothing more than (as St. Paul elegantly expreſſes it) "kicking againſt the pricks."

Whether my mother thought Mr. Ipecacuanha talked with the freedom of an apothe-

apothecary, or the ſpirit of a divine I know not; but ſhe ſeemed little moved at the doctor's apprehenſions, from the riot of the paſſions ſo elaborately diſcuſſed, and ſo ingeniouſly explained by his natural thermometer; and the doctor not meeting with that approbation he wantonly expected, ſuſpended his further obſervations on the danger virtue is expoſed to in a theatre, to aſk her what ſhe thought of the actors now in eſtimation.

The hour of breakfaſt drew near, as they approached Baſingſtoke, and Madam Sapſkull was too conceited to begin a criticiſm when ſhe knew there muſt neceſſarily be an interruption, and ſo loſe the force and triumph of her opinion.... She was content to employ her mouth upon another more ſeaſonable occaſion,

in order to preſerve the credit of her appearance by laying in a fund, to ſupply the current expences of nature.

CHAP. XV.

Journey to London continued.

WHEN they were re-ſeated in the coach, Madam Sapſkull honeſtly declared her opinion, that Mr. Garrick was a favourite well choſen .... for, partiality apart, he was an amazing little fellow! ..... What expreſſion! She wiſhed ſhe could ſee him perform the clown in one of his pantomimes, as the language of thoſe dumb entertainments can only be underſtood by the looks and actions of the performer .... therefore want of expreſſion in the characters of pan-

pantomime, is the ſame as want of diction in the parts of a tragedy.

But, continued ſhe, I remember Mr. Garrick in a quite different ſituation; there was a time when this genius was refuſed admittance into a company (to which I formerly belonged) for want of capacity.

But the opinion of the capricious, you know, is not the criterion of judgment; .... greater men have ſuffered greater indignities! Dean Swift was refuſed a degree in a certain college in a neighbouring kingdom; and Sir Iſaac Newton met with the ſame indignity from one of our univerſities, and to keep cloſe to my parody, each of theſe great men, after the cloud was removed, ſhone out with uncommon luſtre, and proved a

ſarcaſm upon thoſe men, who wanted judgment to diſcern, or honeſty to acknowledge their abilities.

Madam Sapſkull then ſhifted from the hero to the heroine .... here the woman took the lead, and foul-mouthed envy ſhewed her hideous face, and ſcornfully ſaid, that people, in general, were too often deceived by appearances and ſounds, the bubbles of perſon and tones .... that indiſputably Mrs. Yeates had an elegant figure, and a melodious voice, well tuned to plaintive woe .... but

The coach was ordered again to ſtop, as if nature (guardian to Mrs. Yeates) faithful in the diſcharge of her truſt, kindly intended this motion to interrupt the malicious invectives of diſappointed vanity, and as a puniſhment for her preſumption,

ſumption, altered the courſe of operation, and made the medicine force its paſſage through a more uncleanly part.... Madam returned weak and wan by this unexpected alternity,.... for nature is always ſevere in her reſentments . . . learn hence, ye wanton ſuicides, that nature muſt never be oppoſed.

Madam Sapſkull's affection for the ſtage had led her into a partial acquaintance with ancient hiſtory .... I believe ſhe but lately told you the particulars of her intimacy from which ſhe borrow'd her learned arguments to defend and ſupport the dignity of her illuſtrious profeſſion.

And Mr. Ipecacuanha, in compliment .... perhaps in affection to the lady, laboured her favourite ſubject by the ſtrength of his political abilities; nay do

do not ſmile at the doctor's political abilities, becauſe in every country town throughout England, you will find a ſpiritual and temporal politician.... that is, the rector or curate of the pariſh, and the apothecary or barber-ſurgeon of the town.

He wiſhed to eſtabliſh the conſequence of the ſtage by making the theatres, as well as every other public amuſement, ſubſervient to the intereſt of government, that whilſt it inſtructed the mind of the ſubject, it might improve the revenue of the prince.... Very conſiderate indeed, Mr. Ipecacuanha.

We will avoid, ſaid he, entering into a tedious diſquiſition upon the uſe of the ſtage, as that is already tacitly confeſſed by its being countenanced.... nay more

....favoured

.... favoured by the moſt virtuous of monarchs.

Now if it is acknowledged to be of benefit in one place, it muſt neceſſarily be of benefit in another .... I would therefore multiply the number of theatres in the view of diſtributing impartially the benefits ariſing therefrom.

I would ſet out with licenſing a new theatre in the city, under the moſt prevailing, as it would be the moſt amiable ſanction, of the Queen's Theatre.

It would certainly have this good tendency .... by keeping the ſons of commerce within the walls, it would ſecure them from the variety of miſchiefs that wait for them without.

The

The difference of latitude betwixt the meridian of St. James's, and the Royal Exchange, makes but little alteration in the genius of either; for the inhabitants of both climates have the ſame paſſions, and the ſame inclinations for pleaſure operate to an equal degree .... by this way of reaſoning we may ſuppoſe a citizen will ſee a play, whether the theatre ſtands in Covent-garden or Stocks-market.

A propos, the Manſion-houſe would make an exceeding good one, for notwithſtanding the upper-cruſt of that building is thought too heavy for the ſimple ingredients of an aldermanic paſty, ſtill it might do very well to cover the perigorde, or wild-fowl of the theatre.

The difference then is the danger he may be expoſed to from his diſpoſitions, after the entertainment is over.

If

If the theatre is in his own neighbourhood, he can return home after the play without interrupting the œconomy of his maſter's houſhold.... but on the contrary, if he is obliged to purſue pleaſure at three miles diſtance, he can never be ſuffered to diſturb the order and regularity of a ſober citizen, by keeping up the family till twelve o'clock at night... What then muſt be done to relieve his miſtreſs from this diſtreſs, and himſelf from many diſagreeable interrogatories in conſequence of it?

Why he muſt give up his integrity (the moſt valuable part of a merchant's capital) and truſt to the fallacious pretence of ſleeping at a friend's, or a parent's houſe.... with this forgery he eludes the enquiry of his maſter, and enters into all the debaucheries of the town....

town .... Grown hardened by the ſucceſs of his firſt deception, he boldly ventures on, till at length he deceives himſelf, and from the induſtrious honeſt tradeſman, ſinks into the idle abandoned profligate.

You are welcome to Bagſhott .... I hope, madam, this long ſtage will be the means of procuring you an appetite .... How do you find yourſelf? .... I am afraid madam you are fatigued .... And although Madam Sapſkull had the conſtitution and ſtrength of an elephant, the Doctor complimented the delicacy of it, ... and ſhe thought he was ſerious! ... And whilſt ſhe was devouring her beef-ſteak, with the greedineſs of an Iriſh biſhop, or Engliſh plough-boy .... He was continually telling her ſhe did not eat at all .... but ſhe gave him the lie for his civi-

civility, by aſſuring him ſhe eat very hearty .... Wiſhed he could get any thing ſhe liked better, notwithſtanding he had conſulted and complied with her choice before, for which ſhe acknowledged herſelf obliged, and with her mouth full, ſputtered out, there was nothing ſhe liked better.... He expreſſed his fears that the beef-ſteak would be too ſtrong for her ſtomach.... at the ſame time ſhe was calling out for ſome fry'd onions to eat with it!

There is a rule in vulgar politeneſs, which.... I had better let alone to another opportunity, as it will intrude too much upon the buſineſs in hand, and interrupt a converſation both profitable and entertaining.

CHAP.

CHAP. XVI.

Journey to London continued.

I Would, in the next place, eſtabliſh companies at particular towns in the country; for inſtance, one company for Liverpool, Mancheſter, and Cheſter.... Another company for Birmingham, Bridgenorth, Shrewſbury and Ludlow .... A third company for Briſtol and Bath, and ſo on through the different counties of England.

This plan of eſtabliſhing companies by authority, would prevent every abuſe of the ſtage, and be the happy means of reſtoring the credit of itinerant perform-

ers,

ers, who are now compelled to forbear their wonted generoſity, and act in violence to their natural bent, from the oppreſſive avarice of their managers, or the precarious ſucceſs in their buſineſs.

If this monopoly was ſpread into different branches, merit, ever baſhfully ſilent in diſtreſs, would then find an aſylum to ſhelter her from the ſtorms.... the hurricances of adverſity.

How many Garricks might we expect to ſee ſtart from their mute, inglorious ſtate, to honour the theatre of a future day? .... How many Yeateſes?

Madam at that inſtant wiſhed the coach might ſtop for a moment.... very ſorry ſhe was ſo troubleſome....

The doctor took the hint, and his vociferous commands met with a ready obedience from the coachman .... and the lady was ſooner relieved from the importunity of her new acquaintance, than the ſecretary of war from the impatience of a diſappointed field-officer upon half-pay.

No ſooner had Madam Sapſkull ſeated herſelf, but Mr. Ipecacuanha reſumed the diſcourſe, without waiting for a civil return to his complimentary "how do "you find yourſelf now ma'am?"

But this haſtineſs cannot appear ſtrange to thoſe, whoſe imagination, or knowledge of mankind, comprehend the tempers of ſuch eager politicians .... for theſe ſort of people, when they firſt ſet out upon their favourite topic, have no time

time to loſe .... but run on at a terrible rate, till having tired and confounded themſelves and their friends, abruptly break off with ſaying, " You ſee, Sir, " it is as clear a propoſition as any in " Euclid." .... Then the common place anſwer (the low currency of politeneſs) is, " Ay, ay, but there are very few ſo " wiſe as you are." .... This ſketch nearly aſſimilates the political outline of Mr. Ipecacuanha, who when we left him was juſt going to ſay .... Now ma'am I will explain to you how much the theatres may be faſhioned to the uſes of government.

The theatres forty years ago were leſs expenſive, and the entertainments more rational than at preſent .... the managers, in thoſe days, ſtudied the various talents and abilities of their ſeveral per-

formers, that the variety of characters in the beſt choſen tragedies and comedies, might be caſt with propriety, and filled to the ſatisfaction of the audience, and credit to themſelves, without bending their thoughts to ſuch a contemptible piece of abſurdity as motley'd harlequin, or the flighty unmeaning geſtures of groteſque figure-dancers.

They were not without their dancers at that time, but then their dances were calculated to ſet off the beauty and deportment of a graceful figure, and to compliment at once the elegance of the performer, and the dignity of human nature, and not to deform and degrade both, as we do, by our modern pantomimic interludes.

In thoſe ſenſible and generous days, the prices were no more than four ſhillings

lings the box.... half a crown the pit .... and eighteen-pence the gallery, the proportion to the preſent exaction about four ſhillings in the pound leſs, and notwithſtanding this material difference Mr. Booth lived well, and died in good circumſtances.... His cotemporary, Mr. Colley Cibber, a vain expenſive man when living, left a genteel fortune at his death .... Mr. Garrick indeed is not worth above ſixty thouſand pounds! and I am well informed the late five or ſix managers of Covent-garden, by the preſent exorbitant impoſition, ſhared at leaſt twelve or fifteen hundred pounds a year each..... An-income exceeding the value of many of our moſt conſiderable, and moſt honourable appointments under the crown! therefore it cannot be thought very unreaſonable to aſk from them an equal contribution with thoſe place-men

(whoſe emoluments of office fall ſo very ſhort of their receipts) towards the ſupport of that government, which maintains the rank, and contributes to the fortune of both.

I propoſe to levy the tax by the following calculation .... Let me ſee..... He then pulled out his pencil and wrote.

The play-houſes perform one hundred and ninety-two nights each .... the receipts, at a medium, of each houſe, amount to one hundred and fifty pounds a night.... which in the ſeaſon will produce the ſum of twenty-eight thouſand, eight hundred pounds .... at four ſhillings in the pound will raiſe five thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty pounds ..... therefore the account will ſtand thus:

Drury-

	£
Drury Lane - - -	5760
Covent Garden - -	5760
Queen's Theatre - -	5760
Opera (ſuppoſing the receipts equal)	5760
Ridottoes, at two thouſand people each, amount to ſix thouſand three hundred pounds, at four ſhillings in the pound	1260
Maſquerades, ditto - -	1260
Vauxhall - - -	1000
Ranelagh - -	1000
Sadler's Wells - -	500
Mary le Bon - - -	500
Country companies - -	2000
	£30,560

By this calculation, madam, you find the places of amuſement (without mentioning Madam Cornelly and Mr. Almack) would pay into the treaſury every year thirty thouſand five hundred and ſixty pounds, a ſum more than ſufficient to maintain our bankrupt nobility .... I mean thoſe right honourable gentlemen, who being raiſed to honours by the virtue or influence of their anceſtors (for I would not be underſtood, that every man is made a lord for his virtue) claim a right to a rent-charge from the public, which removes the nuiſance from the particular pariſhes to which ſuch titled reprobates belong .... though (I am ſorry to ſay it) not equal to the penſionary liſt of abject greatneſs, who, for an incompetent conſideration, ſtains the honour of their anceſtors, by ignobly ſubmitting (whenever called upon)

to

to be the hireling ſtep-ladder, on which the haughty miniſter climbs to arbitrary power.

I am afraid I ſhall not only offend the ſuperintendants of our amuſements, which I never intended, but rather meant to heighten the conſequence of a theatrical manager, by furniſhing them with a plea for ſweeping away the rubbiſh of the ſtage, and preſerving only thoſe few who have talents to inſtruct the mind, and thoſe who may enjoy the lovelineſs of figure to delight the eye of judgment, and at once poſſeſs us with a rapturous idea of the almighty artiſt who compoſed it.

But I am equally apprehenſive greater men will take fire at it . . . . . So much the better . . . . It is a favourable ſymptom

tom if the patient winces when the ſurgeon is probing the wound.

I have a particular ſatisfaction in confeſſing, madam, that my zeal for my country, hurries me too often beyond the boundary of prudence.... I am an enthuſiaſt in my love for the virtues of our ancient nobility.... I never read biſhop Parker but my blood is precipitated, by a cold ſtream, through every channel of my body, when he tells me a deſcendant from Drogo de Montacuto (who knew England ſo long ago as the conqueſt) having ſhattered ſeven of the enemy's ſhips, and beat off three fire-ſhips, at length over-powered, fell a ſacrifice for his country.... A gentleman adorned with all the virtues of Alcibiades .... untainted by any of his vices.... capable of any buſineſs.... full of wiſdom

dom .... A great commander at ſea and land .... Learned .... Eloquent ..... Affable .... Liberal and magnificent ... And then to ſee how that glory is faded by the negligence of his degenerate ſucceſſor .... who ſeems to want .... I will not ſay what .... to apply thoſe advantages, which nature has diſpenſed to him, with uncommon liberality, for the honour of himſelf, and for the benefit of mankind.

His conſtancy in love, and his refinements in politics, may be very well explained by a paraphraſtical tranſlation of the family motto .... *Poſt tot naufragia portum* .... that is, Any port in a ſtorm.

Stains is now open to us, a good harbour and excellent accomodations, we will

will go aſhore for a little refreſhment, and then proceed to the port of London.

CHAP XVII.

Journey to London continued.

THE lady being as much fatigued with the doctor's politics, as you, my patient reader, with the recital of it, artfully made her diſorder a pretence to whiſper the coachman once more, in order to divert the converſation, and give it a more intereſting turn .... It had the deſired effect .... for her approaches to the coach being affectedly ſlow .... and at the ſame time declaring ſhe was very faint, and very ill .... gave the doctor the faireſt opening of teſtifying his original partiality, not to ſay fondneſs, by breath-

breathing out the ſofteſt things, and expreſſing his concern for her indiſpoſition in the tendereſt manner, beſtowing upon her the comfortable aſſurance, that ſhe would ſoon be better .... Looks, ſighs, and words half uttered, expreſſed their love .... Love refined by ſentiment ... not ſenſual.

Madam's frequent commands with the coachman .... ſtopping my cries with the ſalubrious nipple (my not being mentioned before, proves I was not much thought of) and refreſhing themſelves on the road, deceived the time till they reached London .... when my mother ordered the coachman to drive to a certain houſe in Spring-Gardens, at that time an houſe of gay reſort, where the voluptuary uſed to riot on the ſweet deſtruction

ſtruction of innocence, and cruelly to exult in the unmanly conqueſt.

Here my mother alighted, not with a vicious deſign of making a perquiſite of ſome ſallacious citizen, or debauched rake, but to take the benefit of a back-door, which opened very commodiouſly to Charing Croſs, through which ſhe eſcaped, leaving me to the mercy of Mr. Ipecacuanha, and him (poor gentleman) to the violence of his own reflections.

His patience being quite tired, he with as much eagerneſs as vexation, entered this temporal convent, and after ſummoning the lady abbeſs .... he interrogated her very particularly concerning his ſophiſtical enamorata.

The

The mellow matron, complexioned like a cucumber, matured by exceſſive heats, and puffed up with intemperance, came waddling in, and preſſing her hand upon her heart, aſſured him, upon her honour, ſhe had no ladies in the houſe but her own, and they (thank heaven for all things) were in company .... perhaps one of them might be ſoon diſengaged, and then (dropping ſomething like a courteſy) at his ſervice .... that for her part, ſhe never encouraged her ladies in thoſe fantaſtical unneceſſary airs, to hide themſelves from their friends, when they did them the honour to viſit them.

This teſtimony was ſupported by the nimble enterance of a ſtarveling waiter (a figure perfectly well known in thoſe manſions of vicious delights, by being ſeen very frequently in the ſervice of ſuch

ſuch pleaſurable landladies) He was one of thoſe comparative monkeys, who have nothing to cover the nakedneſs of their bones, but a thick ſkin and a thin waiſt-coat .... and yet this wretch alſo proteſted upon his honour (but however, theſe ſervants have full as much honour as their miſtreſs) there were no ladies in the houſe but what belonged to it .... that he ſaw a ſtranger, finely dreſſed, fly through the entry, ſo quick that his eye could hardly catch the colour of her gown .... but he believed, if he was put to his bible oath, he could ſwear with a ſafe conſcience, it was a yellow brocade.

This was ſufficient evidence to prove that his lovely ward had played the counterfeit, and left me the legacy of her ingratitude .... All thoſe who attended

Madam

Madam Sapſkull in her expedition from Saliſbury, muſt do her juſtice in her profeſſion, by owning ſhe acted her part very well.... And ſo good by, Madam Sapſkull.... for ſome time.

CHAP. XVIII.

Fallen innocence deſcribed.

MR. Ipecacuanha felt himſelf in a very aukward ſituation, ſurrounded with difficulties from which he could not ſo immediately diſengage himſelf, for his reputation was ſo threatened by circumſtantial appearances, that he had all the horrors of domeſtic inquietude, and the ſly jeers of his malicious townſmen .... In ſhort, he was the finiſhed picture of a modern politician, and looked di-

rectly like one of thoſe wiſe mechanics, who have vanity to ſuppoſe, he can ſave the ruin of his country, yet wants ſenſe to ſecure himſelf againſt the ordinary accidents of life.

Whilſt he was ruminating on ways and means to provide for the little innocent, without expoſing himſelf to the cenſures and infelicities he dreaded .... he was called upon by the coachman, to know what he ſhould do with the ſqualling brat in the ſeat?

What Sir (exclaimed the old fornicatrix) has the impudent huſſey left you her baſtard to maintain? .... ſure Sir, you muſt have had ſome concerns with the lady, or ſhe never could have been ſuch an un-natural brute, to truſt the poor baby to the mercy of one who had no

no hand in the getting it!.... however, coachman, let me ſee the little wretch.

Lord madam, replied the artleſs Mr. Ipecacuanha, perhaps I know as little of the creature, as the young man there, who only ſaw her flirt by him.

Upon this information the fleeting Mercury ſkipped up ſtairs to acquaint the veſtals with this ſingular accident, and however intereſting their engagements might be, they deſerted their company above, to attend the event of this notable ſtory below.... ſo without any ceremony they burſt in upon the doctor, where you ſee him bluſhing amidſt half a dozen young proſtitutes, as negligent in their morals as their dreſs.

One of them ſnatch'd the infant from the flabby arms of Mrs. Squabb, the an-

cient lady of the houſe, and looking firſt ſlightly on the child, and then very attentively on the doctor, pronounced in a gentle tone of confidence, there was too apparent an aſſimilation of features, to leave the leaſt doubt, that the gentleman had been particularly intimate with the mother of it.

Good God.... Ma'am.... you never were more miſtaken in your life young lady.... I am a married man.... and my profeſſion too is of that ſtudious turn, that.... lord madam, it is impoſſible, levities of this nature ſhould find encouragement from people of my ſerious deportment.

Matrimony, ſaid a ſecond, is no bar, Sir, to the pleaſures of mankind, and I aſſure you, if it were not for a few grave,

ſerious

ſerious cuſtomers, like yourſelf .... we ladies ſhould be curſedly puzzled to ſupport ourſelves in the chearful manner we live .... You know that (turning to the venerable lady) very well.

Indeed miſs, I think I ought to know .... If I do not, who ſhould?

I will not pretend to diſpute, or even to know any part in the myſteries of your calling (replied the doctor) but if I was to form a judgment of mankind from myſelf, I ſhould rather think your intereſt was among the idle coxcombs of fortune, not the induſtrious men of buſineſs.

Lord, Sir, ſaid a third, you are as much out with regard to us, as you imagined Miſs Fanny was juſt now in regard

to yourſelf .... Why, what ſum do you think now the C—— C—— brings to the lodgers of this houſe every week?

Ma'am you aſtoniſh me by the queſtion .... my little experience will not ſuffer me to ſuppoſe, ſuch formal people can find either leiſure or reſolution to venture upon ſuch frollicks.

Why there is .... my broad-faced attorney, you know Miſs Fanny, is good three guineas a week to me .... and there is your Birmingham hardware man, never miſſes a Sunday after meeting, and is a cull worth nurſing.

Yes indeed, ſays the experienced dame .... we have upon our liſt eight C—— C—— men .... more A—— and ſeveral d——s of wards .... all good men

men.... true to the ſtuff.... would you believe it that one of your long grizzled bob gentlemen, from the other ſide Temple-Bar, is worth ten of your *l' aile de pigeon* fellows on this!.... the firſt love rich living.... they never famiſh the cauſe.... the others are mere whypſyllabubs .... all froth and no ſubſtance.

Talking of ſyllabubs, ſays Miſs Fanny, don't you think madam the child has a great deal of the cream-coloured complexion of this gentleman? .... you muſt certainly have contributed Sir a more than ordinary ſhare to the forming of it.

Nay Sir, ſaid another, there is no occaſion to corroborate the evidence by changing colour.

Ay, ay, cries Miſs Fanny, I always found that your baſhful men were forwardeſt in the dark .... draw but the curtain and they are ſaucy enough .... there is more miſchief to be feared from one modeſt man, than twenty of your very impudent fellows! .... the firſt attack you from a maſked battery, and ſo take you by ſurprize .... the latter betray their purpoſe by making their approaches more open and unreſerved, ſo that the moſt unpractiſed virgin is prepared to receive them.

You, gentle Sir (chucking the doctor under the chin) are one of thoſe ſheepiſh men, who offer ſo many victims to the ſhrine of Venus! .... It is ſuch ſhamefaced gentlemen as you, who furniſh the market with commodities faſhioned to every appetite! ... Indeed Sir you ought

to

to cover your countenance, as the ſong adviſes, for you muſt have been a woeful ſinner in former days, by your penitential face at preſent.

The doctor was ſo ſtupidly confounded (for in more temperate times he was tormented with the *mauvaiſe honte* to a very troubleſome degree) that he could not recover himſelf to reſiſt the attack .... ſo like an experienced general he endeavoured to ſecure his retreat by a precipitate march from the unmerciful aſſailants .... He cautiouſly made his diſpoſitions in order to accelerate his deſign .... and no ſooner did a fair occaſion offer, but he ſeized the advantage, and puſhed to the coach as expeditiouſly as poſſible .... drawing up the blind, after he had ordered the coachman to bring him the infant.

The

They purſued him with their artillery of ridicule .... rallying the ſucceſs of his late amour .... and thundering out their admonitions, that he would be a careful dry-nurſe at the preſent, and a tender parent for the future, and above all not to be aſhamed to acknowledge his own child .... when every feature publiſhed him the father.

CHAP. XIX.

Humanity .... a lovely picture.

NO ſooner had the coachman reſtored him the child .... but the coach drove away, and when the doctor found himſelf beyond the hearing of the female conſpirators, he whiſpered the coachman to puſh on to a particular houſe, of

of phyſical conſideration, in the neighberhood of Covent-Garden, from which magazine of combuſtibles, he was occaſionally ſupplied with chymicals and galenicals.

He luckily found the maſter of it at home .... and alone .... after the firſt ſalutations were over he opened the whole hiſtory of his misfortunes, and begged he would aſſiſt him with his advice in the preſent critical dilemma ... for, ſaid Mr. Ipecacuanha, I am ſuch a novice in the tricks and impoſitions of this ingenious town .... ſo totally unprovided againſt ſuch vexatious accidents, that I cannot form to myſelf any contrivance to remove the preſent difficulty from me, or abate the perturbation of my mind.

You

You know, Mr. Emetic, it is as prudent to preſerve my own character, as it is humane to preſerve the life of the deſerted orphan .... there ſeems to me an equal duty in both .... Now I have communicated my ſentiments on this unfortunate affair, put me in a method to rid myſelf at once, of the cenſure of the world, by keeping it a ſecret from mankind, ... and the reproach of my own conſcience, by diſcharging the obligation of a good chriſtian, in ſharing with the child, what Providence has ſo partially beſtowed upon me .... I mean to ſtand in the place of a father, and by that adoption provide for the helpleſs innocent with the ſame care and tenderneſs, as if I was the natural parent of it.

What an amiable picture of chriſtian charity! .... How unlike the whining devotees

votees of Tottenham-Court, or the ragged congregation at the Seven Dials, who conſcientiouſly plunder their huſbands, to the ruin of their families, to laviſh away ſums of money, not in compliance to the honeſt dictates of their own hearts, but from a compulſive obedience to the will of an artful, deſigning, avaritious, diſbanded prieſt, who directs all their contributions to his own penurious purpoſes, and therefrom riots upon the beggary of a weak, deſponding ſet of people, who, grown deſperate by conſcious wickedneſs, court the deluſion, and once loſt to God, truſt their ſalvation to the promiſes of man!

Juſt ſo the daring mariner, in hardineſs of heart, deſerts the foundering veſſel, and with preſumptuous pride, commits his ſafety to the raging ſea .... he

ſtruggles

ſtruggles long .... but when he ſees inevitable death, blames too late his raſh impatience .... looks back deſponding on the ſhip he left, and now, devoid of hope, attempts a paltry plank, to ſave his ſinking body from perdition.

I aſk pardon for taking you from the beſt company to introduce you to the worſt .... we will, therefore, leave theſe miſerable Swaddlers for the preſent, and return to Mr. Ipecacuanha, whoſe goodneſs of heart would be an ornament to any religion; but human nature, in beating the rounds, had found an exceptionable part in it, which is proved, by his not being quite able to reſiſt the turpitude of ſome truant paſſions.... But I hope he will gain ſtrength by his late unpropitious adventure.

So-

Socrates found it the moſt difficult taſk to ſubdue his vicious propenſities.

His couſin Emetic (I need not trace the pedigree of this gentleman to prove the affinity, as the name is ſufficient to convince my readers, he is of the elder branch, and that Mr. Ipecacuanha is of the Emetic family) was aſtoniſhed at the unfaſhionable, and unaffected generoſity of his friend and relation.... but he was determined not to loſe the joke, in the admiration of his virtue.... for Emetic, notwithſtanding his practical gravity, could, upon occaſion, laugh upon as eaſy terms as any body, and as he was (from long experience) in the ſecret of the wiles and deceits daily practiſed in this metropolis, could venture to rally the doctor's ſimplicity, in the management of his intrigue.

He

He laughed very heartily at the humour of the ſtory .... the artleſs manner in which Mr. Ipecacuanha related it, and the ridiculous uneaſineſs he ſeemed to ſuffer for fear of a diſcovery.

When the joke had gone through the different changes of humour, and the laugh no longer tenable againſt the approaching ſtorm, Mr. Emetic with great judgment and complacency, began to ſmooth the temper he had almoſt ruffled, by aſſuring the doctor, he ſhould not have taken the liberty of carrying the joke to ſuch a mortifying length, but from being very well aſſured, that there was little in it more than the expence of maintaining the child .... and rung the bell for the ſervant to fetch immediately an old woman, who lived but two ſtreets from him, to take the charge off his hands, and therein

therein explain the truth of what he alledged.

At this information the doctor cleared up.... he puffed away all his cares by one deep-fetched ſigh, and had almoſt recovered ſpirits enough to ſmile at his own folly.

Mr. Emetic (to prevent a relapſe) filled up the interval of time, between the ſending for the old woman, and her making an appearance, with different ſtories of different villainies, ſucceſsfully executed upon the credulity of honeſt men, and ſome of them ſo ſenſibly managed, particularly one, which deſerves to be remembered for its ingenuity and contrivance.

CHAP XX.

The hiſtory of Trimalchio, in which is proved honeſtas optima politia.

TRIMALCHIO,.... a youth of a narrow education.... but a mind expanded to invite every kind of vice which fell in his way.... he finiſhed his ſtudies.... not in a college at Oxford, but as I am informed, in a ſhop in Fleet-ſtreet.... an impatience of temper diſcovered itſelf, by withdrawing his obligations from his induſtrious tutor, before he had conformed to the rules of the houſe, only becauſe his pride would not permit him to ſubmit to the diſcipline of it.... by which it was thought, he had more of the ſpirit, than the genius of trade

trade about him.... or perhaps unwilling to undergo the daily reproaches of a tender conſcience, for frauds and impoſitions carried on every hour of a tradeſman's life, he was determined to eaſe his mind from the anxiety of habitual deceit, and his body from the painful exertion of its powers, by one capital ſtroke;.... he wanted to make the end of every other man's buſineſs the beginning of his, and at once enjoy the indulgence of fortune, without the toil of getting it.

When Trimalchio had removed his body from trade, he found buſineſs enough to employ his mind in contriving means to ſupport the character of a gentleman, which he had fondly taken.... He begun his plan of operations by boarding in a genteel family, the miſtreſs of which, he had found out, was furniſhed

niſhed with the neceſſary inſtrument to aſſiſt his grand deſign .... Providence had given her a tongue, and ſhe knew the uſe and abuſe of it; for it was ever in motion, employed indiſcriminately to aſſiſt the ſemination of vice, or deſtroy the growth of virtue, not from a miſchievous diſpoſition, but from a natural propenſity to divulge every thing ſhe heard, without allowing herſelf leiſure to examine whether it was true or falſe .... whether ſerviceable or injurious.

Trimalchio took occaſion at theſe goſſiping parties, where idleneſs unfurls the ſails of ſcandal, and tea ſets it afloat, to mention with affected modeſty, that his ſituation was rather ſevere .... that he had an uncle at Madraſs .... his name Aſcyltos, who by induſtry .... judgment and œconomy, had amaſſed a great for-

fortune.... and ſaved it.... that he intended to make him heir to the whole .... he blamed the diſpoſition of thoſe men, who leave to their heirs a princely eſtate when they are dead, but want ſpirit, whilſt alive, to beſtow upon them the income of a private gentleman.... however, he muſt make himſelf as eaſy as he could, till providence ſhould relieve the ſteward from his truſt, and appoint him to the management of the fortune.... he wiſhed it not more for himſelf, than for the uſes of other people.... for thoſe he ſhould think deſerving his munificence.... my pretty little Nancy (chucking the daughter under the chin) ſhould not be the worſe for it.

This laſt inſinuation won the heart of Gita, the good woman of the houſe (I ſhould ſay lady, for every fair one in

theſe polite times, from the firſt counteſs in the kingdom, to the woman who ſkims the pot, falls ſometime or other under that dignify'd appellation; for you will frequently hear a fellow in livery, when he is handing Mrs. Martha into the upper-gallery of the play-houſe, hollow out, "Make room for the ladies;".... and when the city apprentice attends Mrs. Tambour the embroidereſs, Miſs Guſſett the milliner, and Madam Negligè the mantua-maker, to the White Conduit Houſe, he entertains the journeyman next morning, whilſt he is opening the ſhop, with telling him how happy he had been with the ladies the day before) well, the lady of the houſe admired the generoſity of her lodger, and diſcovered ſo many new beauties in his mind and perſon, that ſhe looked upon him as a divinity.... and wiſhed moſt ardently ſhe had

an

an hundred thouſand pounds to throw into his lap, as a portion with her daughter Nancy .... ſhe was happy when the tea was over .... could not poſſibly ſtay to waſh up the dirty things.... but ran with all ſpeed to her neighbour Mrs. Babble, that ſhe might no longer be ignorant what a jewel of a man ſhe had in her family .... that he was an angel of a fellow .... if ſome curmudgeons (ſaid ſhe) in the Eaſt-Indies knew what a dear creature he was, other people would have ſome thouſands more than they have now .... however, all in good time .... Aſcyltos could not hold out, according to the leaſe of nature, above three years, and then that ſweet ſoul would have one hundred and eighty thouſand pounds.

This report was ſoon ſpread in favour of Trimalchio, who was now looked upon

as the moſt worthy of men, who would ſoon emerge from the cloud of adverſity, and ſhine forth in the full attainment of all his wiſhes.... the coachmaker renewed his acquaintance with Mrs. Gita ... the jeweller made miſs a preſent of a trinket for her etwee .... the taylor ſent a piece of white ſattin for ſhoes.... but Mrs. Gita, ſuſpecting it might not be honeſtly come by, returned it, remembering to her own loſs, that "ſtolen goods "never proſpered:" .... and all this was to anticipate the buſineſs of Trimalchio, by the intereſt of his landlady.

The prologue ſucceeded to his wiſh, as it prepared the minds of all that knew or heard of him, to receive the ſubſequent action with favour and partiality.

The

The ſcene now opens .... an elderly well-dreſſed man came to Mrs. Gita's to enquire for Trimalchio .... he was informed the young gentleman was out .... he then requeſted, in the moſt urgent manner, to know the certain hour of meeting with him at home .... he was told .... Trimalchio always breakfaſted with the family at ten o'clock .... the ſtranger then acquainted Mrs. Gita, that he had buſineſs of the utmoſt importance to communicate to Trimalchio, and would, without fail, call of him again the next morning at ten .... then took his leave in the moſt reſpectful, engaging manner.

Trimalchio returns to his lodging in the evening .... Mrs. Gita acquainted him with every circumſtance of his viſitor .... his perſon and addreſs were particularly

ticularly deſcribed to him .... but as Trimalchio ſeemed not to know his new acquaintance, he could not poſſibly gueſs the deſign of his viſit .... but ſaid, ſmiling, to Mrs. Gita, ſuppoſe he ſhould bring ſome good news from the Eaſt, as within this month ſome ſhips have arrived from Madraſs .... you know it is not impoſſible, madam .... pray God it may, reply'd Mrs. Gita, whilſt her prophetic heart, in the agitation of tranſport, beat againſt the wrong ſide of her body.

The morning came .... an additional cup and ſaucer of the holy-day china was ſet, in compliment to the ſtranger, and a ſupernumerary muffin was added to the uſual quantity.

The gentleman knocks at the door, and Gita's heart gave another thump at her

her ſide .... he was introduced to Trimalchio .... they both ſeemed mighty ſhy .... or, as it proved afterwards, mighty ſly .... their firſt ſalutation was in the ocular way; when, after looking for ſome time attentively, he broke ſilence, and aſked Trimalchio his chriſtian name? The names of his father and mother? Where he was born? And whether he had any relation abroad? Trimalchio ſatisfy'd him in every circumſtance of his enquiries .... the old gentleman then got up, with an emotion of ſatisfaction and joy, took him by the hand, and congratulated him upon his acceſſion to an immenſe fortune!::.. that his uncle died twelve months before, and had left him one hundred and eighty thouſand pounds :... he then produced the will, witneſſed by himſelf, which he read to Trimalchio, and to give

give it the countenance of truth, it began with this exordium .... " If my ne-
" phew knew the danger I have run,
" and the fatigue I have ſuffer'd, in ac-
" cumulating this fortune, he would
" not have a ſingle thought of ſquan-
" dering it away." .... And in another part he enjoins him " to take the name
" of Aſcyltos" .... The old gentleman then inform'd him, he had ſhipp'd on board the Albany effects to the value of forty thouſand pounds, and when Trimalchio pleas'd he would go with him and prove the will in the commons, and then it would reſt with him to ſend over the neceſſary power for remitting the remainder.

It would be impoſſible to deſcribe the ridiculous tranſport of the Gita family, and the affectation of Trimalchio upon this

this occaſion .... The gentlemen went out to further their ſcheme .... and Mrs. Gita to inform every body what ſhe knew of the event.

Trimalchio, after proving the will in the commons .... his next ſtep was to petition the parliament for an act to change his name .... His petition was receiv'd, and the act paſſed! .... Now he had authoriz'd the cheat by the ſanction of the legiſlature, and made the H—— of C——— ſubſervient to his baſe deſigns: by the recommendation of Mrs. Gita he beſpoke a very elegant carriage .... took up baubles of one jeweller and ſold them to another, in order to raiſe money, to anſwer his preſent exigencies.

He then went into the city, and inſured his effects upon the ſea .... agreed for

for the purchaſe of an eſtate, and the writings were prepared againſt the arrival of the Albany .... Upon the credit of theſe tranſactions, he introduc'd himſelf to the Phariſees near Duke's Place, and in a very ſhort time fleec'd both the Jews and the Gentiles. Amongſt the latter was a remarkable character, known upon town by no other name but Count Corkſcrew, an honeſt, inoffenſive man, who, proud of ſuch an acquaintance as Trimalchio, not only lent him all his little fortune, but became bound with him for other ſums .... With theſe, the firſt fruits of his enterprize, he furniſh'd an elegant houſe in town, and rented another in the country .... bought a ſet of horſes .... hired a number of ſervants .... cloathed them in ſuperb liveries.... and ſported the gayeſt equipage at all public places.

Thus

Thus having ſettled his houſhold, conformable to his plan of elegance, he ſent for his wife (to the ſurprize and mortification of Mrs. Gita, who never knew or dream'd her ſweet creature was marry'd; ſo far from it, ſhe had whiſper'd to her intimates, that Nancy ſtood ſome chance .... but explain'd herſelf no further) to participate his magnificence .... ſhe, good woman, having never heard of this uncle, was uneaſy at her grandeur, for her heart ſecretly condemn'd what her outward behaviour was oblig'd to approve.

Trimalchio perſiſted in the vaineſt extravagance, not having judgment to calculate the time a man may venture to continue a cheat, nor œconomy to improve the advantage of his well-concerted ſcheme, till his creditors grew circumſpect

cumſpect and watchful, and the alarm being given from his vain appearance, he became the ſubject of converſation at the India club; and thoſe gentlemen, not knowing any one of the name of Aſcyltos at Madraſs, ſoon publiſh'd the impoſture .... This preſently chang'd the notes of his creditors from the flats of civility, to the ſharps of impertinence ... and as they grew more ſolicitous, he perceiv'd it neceſſary to be precipitate in his motions, ſo to avoid the inſolence of a parcel of fractious men, he took his departure for Holland, leaving his creditors to ruminate on their credulity ...., his wife to return to her father .... and Mrs. Gita to the laugh of all her acquaintance.

Mr. Ippecacuanha ſeem'd vaſtly aſtoniſh'd at this ſtory .... He declar'd he could

could never ſuppoſe, that real ingenuity could ſubmit to ſuch contemptible wickedneſs; for it was certain, if they apply'd thoſe talents to any uſeful ſcience, they might acquire great profit and exemplary honour; but on the contrary, a proſtitution of ſuch abilities, muſt inevitably end in puniſhment and ſhame.

Behold the dining room .... I aſk pardon ... the drawing room door open .... for the tyranny of politeneſs hath robbed her of that hoſpitable name .... and ſee diſcovered the venerable dame of antiquity, who was recommended to the important office of turning me dry, and to ſuperintend my premiere actions, till I ſhould grow into power to aſſiſt myſelf, there was no room to doubt her experience in theſe matters; for, as I have been told, the blaſt of time had ſo withered

her form, that ſhe had nothing left but the contour of the human ſpecies . . : . . Antiquarians would have traced the chizzel to the chipping of old Noll's days.....Nature and fortune had ſettled upon her the ſtipulations of a Pythian prieſteſs,.... age, poverty, and ſimplicity.

Mr. Emetic propoſed terms to the approbation of my foſter-mother, and to the entire ſatisfaction of my adopted father, and I was transferred accordingly, not without a bleſſing from the good doctor, and a farewel inſtruction to the old matron to ſee me chriſtened, and as the day he arrived in town was ſingular, from its being ſacred to St. Bartholomew, he deſired the child might join that name to his mother's : . : : ſo by this accident I ſtumbled upon the prenomen of the family .... begged Mr. Emetic would ſtand

ſtand for it, and laſtly, for the good woman to take all imaginable care of her little charge.

After a profuſion of compliments to Mr. Emetic, on his conducting this perplexing affair with ſo much judgment and perſpicience, he parted from him in full acknowledgment of an eternal obligation ..... ſtept briſkly into the coach, being reſtored to perfect eaſe and contentment of mind, and chearfully gave orders to the coachman, to ſet him down at an inn in the city .... where we will leave him to accomodate his matters in town, and from thence proceed to ſettle his domeſtic arrears with his wife, on his arrival at Saliſbury.

In the ſubſequent chapters I ſhall jump into life, and endeavour to entertain my

friends with the methods I took to entertain myſelf during the minority of my underſtanding, and amuſe them with the portraits of thoſe extraordinary perſonages, who aſſiſted in the accompliſhment of my pleaſures, and the ruin of my peace and fortune.

CHAP. XXI.

A hint upon the abſurdity of teaching children to talk nonſenſe.

YOU parted from me in the laſt chapter, juſt after I was matriculated to the care of the good lady my nurſe, by the unuſual humanity of Mr. Ipecacuanha .... and as that gentleman differed very much from the generality of mankind, in the beneficence of his nature,

nature, ſo my old foſter-mother had the advantage of underſtanding over moſt of the matrons in her claſs; for inſtead of amuſing herſelf with teaching me the current language of a nurſery, and priding herſelf upon little maſter's being hurried into the repetition of ſome coarſe unmeaning phraſe of her own compoſing, ſhe helped me to the articulation of Engliſh words .... and I muſt do her the juſtice to declare (what I have often heard) that I could ſay, "Your ſervant "Sir".... juſt as early as other children could liſp "Your ta, daddy".... and was as forward in every other article of forwardneſs, as thoſe of the ſame age with me.

Mr. Ipecacuanha's kindneſs did not abate here .... it was continued by a moſt uncommon attention to my future

accompliſhments .... he did not neglect or injure the importance of my ſtudies, from an inconſiderate partiality to any particular friend's recommendation, but enquired himſelf, and examined into the plan, or ſtate of ſchool government, practiſed by the many maſters, as well within the walls, as ten miles round the metropolis .... He then determined in favour of a gentleman, whoſe ſyſtem coincided with the idea he had formed of a manly education .... untainted with the effeminacy of modern politeneſs .... Mr. Ipecacuanha being thus perfectly ſatisfied with the abilities and conduct of this gentleman, he (without any impertinent inſtruction) entruſted me entirely to his care and management.

It will be expected, I ſhould here explain what is meant by a manly education,

tion, to ſhew how far the doctor's judgment may be relied on, in this mode of maſculine tuition, which correſponded ſo exactly with his own idea, and fixed his attachment ſo particularly to this ſchool.

To ſatisfy your enquiries, I will preſent you with a plan and elevation (in the perſon and conduct) of this noble ſtructure of human underſtanding.... lovely in itſelf, as it was beneficial to mankind.

CHAP. XXII.

An original Vandyke.

DYONISIUS, like his Sicilian namesake, was born to greater power than the government of a ſchool... but alas! misfortunes are not always coupled

with vice and ignorance, but ſometimes, nay, too often, complicated with virtue and learning .... The ſins of the father viſited the ſon .:::. But as he followed the ſtill purſuits of philoſophy and literature, he was as much above the vanity of complaining, as he was ſuperior to the knowledge of thoſe partial diſtinctions which fortune indiſcriminately beſtows .... he was contented in his ſituation, as he felt not the miſeries of it.

His temper was a mediocrity of chearfulneſs and ſolemnity .... forty years experience had worn out the levities of youth, and he had too much real good ſenſe, to affect the hebetude and ſullen ſuperiority of age.

His perſon was rather deformed than comely .... but his mind was ſtrait, and free

free from blemiſh .... that parſimony of nature was amply ſupplied by every ſentiment of generoſity and virtue, as if ſhe intended to compenſate the injury he ſuffered, by her neglecting his birth.

In the conduct of his ſchool, he left the formal, beaten track, to tread in a path of his own marking .... every child, entruſted to his care, he conſidered as a pledge of the higheſt confidence, and was ſo ſcrupulouſly attentive to the advancement of his charge, that he thought every wilfull neglect on his part, ſhould be viewed in no better light than a breach of truſt, and be deemed a forfeiture of every pretenſion to the countenance of mankind.

A certain portion of pride (the inheritance of every ſenſible and honeſt mind) ſug-

ſuggeſted to him the importance his ſtation in life was to the general welfare; that he was raiſing pillars to ſuſtain the dignity of civil ſociety, therefore much depended upon his judgment and aſſiduity.

In this arduous undertaking he ſuppoſed himſelf no more than an agent to the public, and always thought his conduct was amenable to them, as the public was hereafter to loſe or benefit, from his good or bad management; in this maxim of ſocial policy, the common duties of life were as binding to him, as the laws of Lycurgus were to the Spartans.

Sentiments ſo diſintereſted, could not fail to operate in the kindeſt manner, when they were employ'd to initiate youth

youth in the rudiments of ſchool diſcipline.

He firſt ſecured their friendſhip, before he attempted to ſhew the authority of a maſter, and never hurried a boy into ſevere ſtudies, till he had conſulted, and made himſelf acquainted with his temper and genius.

He received a child as the curious botaniſt accepts a tender exotic, not ſo much for the profit, as the pleaſure of diſcovering the nature and properties of the plant.... aſſiſting the firſt efforts of vegetation, and improving it to that perfection of health and vigour, as to bloom the pride of the garden, and an ornament to the hand that raiſed it.

This was the recompence he ambitiouſly ſought.... the nobleſt *guerdon* to a gene-

generous mind . . . . . Dyoniſius had more ſatisfaction from the honeſt perquiſite of ſelf-approbation, than from all the proſtituted civility, ſlaviſhly offered at the ſhrine of opulence.

He conſulted the eaſe and deportment of the body, with the ſame accuracy as he conſulted the more noble embelliſhments of the mind . . . . He intended them companions for each other.

It was for this important purpoſe he inſtituted, or attempted to inſtitute, the *judicia ludere* of the Romans . . . . an old ſerjeant of the guards ſtood in the place of Hermaphroditus the dancing-maſter . . . . thoſe ungramatical, fiddle, faddle gentry, were conſidered by him as toys much better calculated for the trifling amuſement of ladies, than for the more

ſignificant improvements of men.... can any thing be more ridiculous than to ſee a captain-general gliding through a minuet, or a lord-chancellor hopping about in a country-dance.

I am convinced, every diſcreet ſenſible matron, muſt allow dancing to be only a negative qualification .... an appertinent accompliſhment to their ſex, rather than an appendication to the advancement of ours .... Dyoniſius is not ſingular in his exception to theſe pernicious people.... he has the opinion of no leſs conſiderable a man than Tully, to give countenance to his objection.

He took the hint of this heteroclitical ſyſtem, from the military academy, up the Bird-cage walk in St. James's Park, where he had frequent opportunities to ob-

obſerve, and be convinced, that the moſt inflected, aukward, irregular figure, juſt dragged from the plough-ſhare, was, by the management of theſe ſkilfull artiſts, kneaded and ſpread into proportion, form, and elegance .... therefore he wiſely judged that, men poſſeſſed of that plaſtic virtue to perſonify, and even make gentlemen out of the moſt ſtubborn and clowniſh ingredients, were moſt likely to ſucceed in modelling a moſt perfect compoſition of perſonal beauty, when the materials were more maleable, and leſs obſtinate.

They were ſo well trained in the diſcipline of good manners, and perſonal accompliſhments, that Dyoniſius could ſay by his ſcholars, as Hyppomachus the wreſtler, affirmed of his ..... that "he "could diſtinguiſh them at a great diſ-

"tance,

" tance, though they were only carrying
" meat from the ſhambles."

Dyoniſius was conſiderate and judicious in his management, and I ſincerely wiſh our great .... pſha .... I mean our faſhionable gentry, would profit by this hint, and ſcratch out dancing from the requiſites of education, at leaſt of their male children, and ſubſtitute the hardy veteran in the place of the *petite maitre à danſer* .... that the next generation may not be diſgraced by a ſet of wretched, ſhambling fellows, as the preſent race of nobility are, leſt we ſhould become a proverb in all nations, and be the ready comparative for every thing that is miſerable in perſon, and lowly in behaviour .... For to ſay nothing more than truth, the figures in the u—r h—e are ſo poor and unfiniſhed, they ſeem as if the almighty

mighty artiſt had particularly neglected them, to mark the inſignificancy of human greatneſs.

Dyoniſius ſaw deeper into the utility of this military aſſiſtant, than the ſuperficial glance of external advantage .... he clearly perceived how far the factitious talents of that man might be rendered ſubſervient to the means of awakening the dawning faculties of his pupils, by kindling the ſpark of emulation in their little breaſts, and inſpiring them with manly propenſities .... for this end he no ſooner prepared their little minds to receive the impreſſions of learning, and proportioned their ſtudies to the ſtrength, and filled them to the bent of their different capacities, but he formed them into a regular company (under the conduct and drilling inſtructions of the old Hal-

Halberteer, adjutant-general to the corps) conſiſting of one captain, two lieutenants, four enſigns, warrant officers, rank and file, drums, fifes, &c.

They aſſimilated the king's troops in almoſt every particular, excepting that the officers in his majeſty's ſervice are too much indebted to the intereſt of birth, or the more prevailing influence of female connection, for their preferment; and to the honour of Dyoniſius, his company, promotion was recommended to advancement, by the concurrent approbation of real induſtry, and real merit .... the diſtinction of rank was impartially beſtowed upon thoſe, who had diſtinguiſhed themſelves moſt in purſuit of their ſtudies.

Every Saturday was the regular ſtated field day, when the whole company was

tered, and formed in the ſame order, as at the laſt review . . . . the roll was called over, and the report made to the commander in chief (Dyoniſius) by the general of the day (one of the uſhers) it was now that every action of the preceding week was re-capitulated, and the merit and demerit of each impartially diſcuſſed.

Dyoniſius then delivered a ſhort declamation in praiſe of thoſe who had behaved well, addreſſed to the whole line, in a language artfully choſen to move their indignation to an abhorrence of every thing that was cruel, low, or unedifying, and at the ſame time to infuſe an intellectual pride, to court fame in the acquiſition of learning, by a conſtant and unwearied application to it.

Ho-

Honours were then publicly conferred on thoſe who were thought worthy of them.... and thoſe who were undeſerving were cenſured and caſhiered from every pretenſion to rank or diſtinction ....this matter being ſettled, and the diſpoſition made for the ſucceeding week .... they were left to their own amuſements.

Thus inſtruction became their playfellow .... and the boy who was inveſted with the temporary command, felt the ſame emotion in his little heart, as a field-marſhal, when he receives the permanent honour of a baton from the hand of his prince, after a ſucceſsful campaign.

Flagellation appeared in the liſt of puniſhments, but was very ſeldom known

to be one . . . . Dyoniſius (as is related of Sarpedo, Cato's ſchoolmaſter) was much more ready to inſtruct than to puniſh.

The rod, like the Roman faſces, was carried by the ſchool lictors, *in terrorem*, ... but the ſeeds of Fancy were never thraſhed out by the flail of correction .... violent puniſhments, like violent remedies, deſtroy more than they cure, as the one corrodes and weakens the conſtitution, ſo the other wounds, and deſolates the mind .... and the boy who required ſuch ignominious diſcipline, was ſeparated from the reſt, and deemed unworthy to aſſociate with them.

In this fallen ſtate he was reſtrained in his privileges .... abridged in his allowance, and deſerted by his comrades .... he was viſited by the inquiſitorial uſher only.

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He remained thus ſequeſtered and forlorn, till he betrayed ſymptoms of remorſe and contrition .... then, by the interceſſion of the inquiſitor who attended him in his apoſtacy, he was introduced in ſolemn form to Dyoniſius, who ſcrutinized the teſtimony of his feelings, to be convinced whether his diſgrace had made the deſired impreſſion or not .... If he diſcovered the leaſt evidence of conſcious and ingenuous ſhame, the hope of reformation prevailed to releaſe him from his confinement .... but it was ſtill neceſſary to purge away the very feces and dregs of his offence, by a ſubmiſſion to the penance of many ſevere exerciſes, and acts of humiliation, in ample atonement for all his tranſgreſſions.

Thus regenerated, he offered himſelf a candidate for favour, but the conſent

of the whole ſchool was to determine his pretenſions to it .... and a guarantee obtained for his future conduct, before he was re-elected a member of the little community .... theſe rigid ceremonies had ſuch a mortifying effect, that every boy was doubly terrified at the apprehenſion of falling under the like predicament.

This was the part Dyoniſius appeared in, and I will venture to prophecy, that every candid pedagogue will agree, he acted up to himſelf, and ſupported the character with great propriety and judgment.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXIII.

The introduction to a more important chapter.

UNDER the tuition of ſuch a maſter .... or rather ſuch a friend, it is not to be wondered that my perſon received conſiderable improvements, as well as my underſtanding .... I mean within the ſtandard of moderation .... for I have not the aſſurance of modern vanity, or modern artifice, to puff and ſwell out the excellencies of my tutor, as empirics do their noſtrums, by way of recommending myſelf, to the prejudice of the world .... no ... I deſpiſe ſuch quackeries .... I would not pitifully impoſe upon mankind, by aſſerting that I

was equal in beauty, and in wiſdom, to the moſt favourite hero in romance .... but tell them honeſtly and fairly, that I ſhared no more than a common proportion of both, with the generality of mankind.

The interval of time, from the firſt day I went, to the laſt day I remained at ſchool, was employed in the ſame puerilities you expect from boys of that age .... the like inattention to the progreſſive buſineſs of improvement, and the ſame eagerneſs in purſuits of the gay unprofitable kind .... Pleaſure was on the wing, and I took flight as far as the bounds preſcribed within the cage of cautionary prudence.

It was now Mr. Ipecacuanha gave me a meeting in town, to conſult my diſpoſition

ſition, and reconcile me to a ſcheme of life for my future emolument.... His journey this time was not ſo eventful as a former one.... he was leſs partial to his fellow-traveller.

He talked leſs, but thought more.... not having the former inducements to converſation, his mind was more at leiſure to contemplate the uneaſineſs of government, from the lamentation of the poor.... the cry of famine had pierced the inmoſt chambers of the palace, and alarmed the feelings of his majeſty for the diſtreſſes of his weeping ſubjects.... His majeſty, whoſe royal breaſt ever ſympathiſes with the juſt complaints of labour and induſtry, and whoſe virtuous ſoul is ever ready to redreſs them, had recommended the heads of wiſdom, and the hands of power, not

only

to think of a remedy, but to ſee it apply'd, for the effectual relief of his good and faithful people.

The tenderneſs of his majeſty, and the apprehenſions of his deſponding ſubjects, upon the preſent ſcarcity of proviſions, employed Mr. Ipecacuanha's thoughts from the time he left Saliſbury till he was diſturbed from the pleaſing delirium of politics, by the jumbling of the old Engliſh pavement in Piccadilly, which like the manners of its ancient inhabitants, is more ſincerely attached to the conſtitution of the body, than to the eaſe and inactivity of it.

As ſoon as he alighted from the coach, he ſtept into a private room at the inn, to digeſt his thoughts, and arrange them in ſome order, for the peruſal of his favourite

vourite miniſter, whoſe integrity he had the higheſt opinion of, and whoſe abilities are not to be queſtioned, notwithſtanding America, in a fit of jealouſy, diſclaims both ..... but, when (upon enquiry) he found Mr. G———— was not recalled to the adminiſtration of public affairs, he grew diſpirited, and with the indifference which uſually attends diſappointment, he committed them to paper, in the careleſs manner you will find them in the next chapter.

CHAP.

CHAP. XXIV.

Thoughts on the preſent ſcarcity of proviſions, and the means to promote induſtry and commerce, by giving encouragement to the partiality of providence.

DISTILLERS and ſtarch-makers ſhould not be reſtrained from the uſe of corn, for two very convincing reaſons .... firſt, as they feed a quantity of Swine, which is an equivalent ſupply of one ſort of proviſions, to make good the waſte in another .... and ſecondly, becauſe they contribute largely to the maintenance of government; .... the exigencies of ſtate muſt neceſſarily be provided for, and ſhould you withdraw the means

means from one article, you muſt indiſpenſibly impoſe it upon another .... and by ſuch inevitable neceſſity, what is now only an imaginary evil, might prove a real one.

A monopoly of farms injures the landlord, and ſtarves the induſtrious .... When farmers grow rich, they value themſelves and deſpiſe their lords .... they grow negligent of his intereſt, and only attend to their own ...., they become mercenary and ungrateful .... not being compelled to load their ground with cattle for a neceſſary ſubſiſtence, they uſually fall into the worſe extreme .... they under ſtock it .... which ſort of parſimony not only interferes with the order of nature, by obſtructing her operations in the moſt eſſential part of her works, but a diſobedience to the original inſtruc-

inſtructions of god, who commanded all his creatures to encreaſe and multiply.

In this inattention to their moral duty, they neglect the ſocial duties of life, for they diſtreſs the poor by ſtarving the markets.... An opulent farmer ſports with his ſtock, as a gameſter ſports with his money; he waits every unfair occaſion to puſh his chance, and ſo, by a caſt of political knavery, he defeats every purpoſe of providence for the good of mankind, by enhancing the prices of the moſt material articles of life.

The rich farmer, by keeping a ſmaller quantity of cattle upon the ground, the ſoil muſt conſequently receive leſs nouriſhment than from a greater, and having their beaſts ſo long upon their hands, watching the propitious moment, they

are

are oblig'd to proportion their ſtock of hay to the demand of fodder for their winter's maintenance, and tho' the whole may be fed upon the premiſſes, it falls very ſhort of the common and impartial advantage diſtributed by eating off the graſs ... thus by meadowing a great deal, and feeding a little, they impoveriſh the land, and injure the landlord.

Now if the haughty ſubject, from the example of his ſovereign .... a ſovereign whoſe Power is his leaſt attribute ..... and whoſe crown is his leaſt ornament... for his humility is more ſignificant than the firſt .... his virtues ſhine brighter than the latter ..... He has dominion over the minds of his people, and his prerogative is the power of doing good .... I ſay, if the proud lord, from the example of ſuch a prince, would conſi-

der

der his peculiar advantage, he would keep promotion in his own breaſt, and raiſe his conſequence, by applying the privilege of fortune to the uſes of mankind .... He would then grow mighty in his influence .... rich in his property .... and happy in himſelf.

Poſſeſs'd of this ineſtimable arcanum, he would parcel out his farms in ſmall tenements, that the induſtrious might enjoy the fruits of his labour, and he the inexpreſſible pleaſure of beholding the ſmile of gratitude dimpling the cheeks of a worthy family, whenever their benefactor bleſſed their cottage with his preſence .... every thought would be expanded for his intereſt .... every prayer would ſolicit a bleſſing for him! .... thus circumſtanc'd, the honeſt labourer would manage his little farm with chear-

chearfulneſs and felicity .... He would conſtantly ſupply the markets with the produce, and being ſatisfy'd in a ſober plan of life, perfect the deſigns of Providence, by diffuſing that plenty thro' the land ſhe annually beſtows .... He would maintain the grandeur of his preſent lord, by a punctual payment of his rent, and continue the advantage to a future maſter, by nouriſhing and keeping the land in heart and condition.

In this ſituation of domeſtic politics, it will admit of an argument, to prove which is the happieſt .... the lord, or the labourer.

But, if a nobleman guarded againſt the feelings of humanity, and deaf to the voice of his ſovereign, ſhould thoughtleſsly leaſe an eſtate of four hundred

pounds a year to one man, I ſhall conſider his lordſhip an enemy to his king ... his country, and to himſelf.... though, perhaps, the farmer, for the firſt few years of his term, thinks him a friend to all three.... will extol his loyalty... praiſe his patriotic munificence .... and drink a continuance of health and happineſs to him every market day .... and why?.... becauſe he grows rich with his bargain .... oppreſſes his induſtrious neighbours by authority .... and riots himſelf in luxury and eaſe.... At length, pamper'd by high keeping (like his brother Brute) he ſpurns the hand that fed him.

From this picture, it is very eaſy to determine on which ſide the ballance of happineſs leans; for here the noble mind is debaſed by reſentment, from the meaneſt

eſt cauſe .... the inſolence of his own tenant! .... In the other picture, you ſee the humble mind exalted with gratitude, from the benevolence of his lord .... It is therefore obvious, in the laſt inſtance, that the labourer has the advantage of the lord.

The preſent furor of encloſing common fields, is very injurious to the public, and very oppreſſive to the induſtrious poor .... the many thouſand acres, which not only found bread for theſe contented people, but labour to purchaſe it, is now laid down with ſeeds for the feeding of cattle, or breeding of horſes, and that let out, as I before obſerved, to enrich three or four, which formerly maintained forty families.

This diſhonourable method of proceeding, amongſt gentlemen of large for-

tunes, is attended with the moſt calamitous conſequences to thoſe who have none .... it depopulates the country .... fills the metropolis with involuntary vagabonds, and the pariſhes with deſerted objects .... over-charges our manufacturies with handicraftſmen, who, not finding employment in the field, are compelled by the pangs of neceſſity, to take up any manual occupation, however inſignificant to themſelves, and uſeleſs to the public .... this gives riſe to the complaints of the weavers, ſhoemakers, taylors, and other manufacturers, not from having leſs work (for there are the ſame quantity of ſhoes, as many ſuits of cloaths made, and more ſilks now worn than in former times) but from having more hands than they can entertain; thus theſe poor deluded wretches being drove from the only means of earn-

earning a livelyhood, grow deſperate ... for the properties of want are outrage and rebellion.

The cauſe which produces theſe violent and melancholy effects, is not a mere ſpeculative poſtulatum, but a truth, founded on inconteſtible evidence .... I would ſubpœna the firſt man of the ſecond houſe in the kingdom, to illuſtrate my poſition, by declaring upon that honour he poſſeſſes, the great number of families that were maintained upon an eſtate near Grantham, twenty years ago .... and the ſmall number that are rioting in ſumptuous living, upon the ſame eſtate now .... I will anticipate his report .... the proportion is as one to ten.

That the preſent high price of proviſions is owing to a real ſcarcity, is be-

yond a doubt .... the occaſion muſt be enquired into.

Firſt, the working people, who formerly were ſatisfied with milk and barley bread, now claim their ſhare of beef and mutton with their fellow labourers, which exceedingly encreaſes the conſumption .... Voluptuouſneſs is an epidemical madneſs, which infects moſt who approach it .... it differs from other contagious diſorders in this particular .... the febrile emiſſaries lay hold of the ſtrongeſt bodies .... Voluptuouſneſs ſeizes on the weakeſt heads .... that it has crept into villages, may, in ſome meaſure, be attributed to the militia law, who, as maſter of ceremonies in the field, has introduced too many of our ſimple ſwains to the acquaintance of luxury and idleneſs .... the truants of every city and

and market town, which has given prodigals to villages, a character unknown before in thoſe clowniſh receſſes of virtue and temperance.

There is another more efficient cauſe, of the ſame nature with that which occaſions a ſcarcity of fiſh in London.... farms being thrown into few hands, the farmers find it more to their intereſt and eaſe, to breed leſs, and keep up the markets, than to encreaſe their ſtock, and ſell them at an under price.... As the fiſhmonger declines the abundant offerings of Providence, and accepts only ſuch part of her liberality as will anſwer his purpoſe, thereby making her munificence ſubſervient to his avarice.... theſe practices are as notorious, as they are infamous.

The remedy is now to be conſidered, ... humanity is the beſt phyſician ... but if ſhe is not to be found .... let the college be conſulted .... the houſes of parliament abound with men, able and willing to correct the depravation of humours, ariſing from the abuſe of our conſtitutional freedom, and which diſorders and deforms the body politic .... If the patient will refuſe to conform to the preſcriptions of lenity, he muſt be drenched by the hand of authority .... If he will not behave like a man, he muſt be treated like an infant .... his relative good is to be conſulted, not his ſelfiſh inclinations.

Encloſing of common fields would be a general advantage, if the proprietors were obliged to plough ſuch a proportion of it .... the ſame obligation ſhould operate

operate upon every eſtate throughout the kingdom.... which would have the moſt ſalutary effects ... it would ſet labourers to work, and afford them bread for their earnings .... and as corn has for many years been conſidered a valuable article of commerce, as well from motives of gain, as of benevolence, for it returns wealth to the kingdom, and gives plenty to our neighbours .... that encouragement of the plough would produce ſuch abundance, as eventually to anſwer the purpoſes of exportation and home conſumption .... it would give health, ſpirits, and employment to the poor .... On the contrary, in thoſe countries where the landlord reſtrains the plough, you ſee nothing but miſery and deſpondence; for there two hundred acres employs only one man, which, if thrown into tillage, would employ one hundred .... the poverty

poverty and depopulation, which follow this inhoſpitable practice, is manifeſt in Lincolnſhire, where you may ride miles without ſeeing even a cottage .... and thoſe few you do ſee, preſent ſpectacles of compaſſion to every paſſer by, except to thoſe, who by habitude are fitted to diſtreſs .... ſtrong, healthy, laborious men, are there obliged to accept a houſe as alms from the pariſh .... for where labour is ſcarce, encouragement is dilatory.

But if a certain proportion of that dormant land was rouzed by the plough, it would give life to the country ..... chearfulneſs would ſmile in every face ... his majeſty would be enriched, and his dominions ſtrengthened by an encreaſe of people .... the ſinews of commerce would

would be braced, and the exchequer repleniſhed by the efforts of trade.

The wretched ſtate of Ireland ought to alarm every diſpoſition to copying her pernicious maxims in neglecting the labour of huſbandry, for the idleneſs of grazing, leſt, like her, by having more people than we can digeſt, we muſt be obliged to diſgorge annually, many thouſands of our induſtrious poor, to ſeek the bread of diſloyalty in foreign countries, till by ſtrengthening our enemies, and weakening ourſelves, we ſhall be overcome by the reſentment of our own people .... or at beſt we may expect to ſee an Engliſh brigade at Verſailles, to compleat the diſgrace of our country, and add to the mortification of every true Engliſhman, when he ſees the grand monarch guarded by troops of the three

three kingdoms.... It vexes me to the ſoul when I remember Lord Clare, at the head of the Scotch and Iriſh, ſnatched the laurel from the duke of Cumberland, when Marſhal Saxe was preparing the victorious wreath to ornament his royal highneſs's brow, in the fields of Fontenoy.

The bounty upon corn has been very advantagious to the poſterity of thoſe who gave it, as it encouraged the exportation to ſuch a degree of exceſs, that it raiſed the price of grain in England, as high as in times of the greateſt ſcarcity, which put money into the pockets of the farmer, and ſerved as a pretence for the landlord to raiſe his rent; ſo that eſtates, which a few years ago were leaſed at ſeventy pounds, now let for three hundred pounds a year, which continued the advanced

vanced value, and made the bounty become neceſſary, as the only medium to ſettle the ſale of our produce at foreign markets.

Now, if an improbability ſhould happen, and Virtue ſhould arreſt our landholders from their penurious purſuits, and turn their thoughts from private intereſt to the public good, we might hope to ſee the rents lowered, ſo as to moderate the prices of every ſort of grain in England, within the prices of the foreign growth, then a ſmaller bounty would revive the ſpirit of that trade, and throw it into the uſual channel.

An heavy duty on the exportation of horſes, would be the neceſſary means of giving ſome check to the preſent fondneſs of breeding them, and turn the views

views of gain to the more important breeding of ſheep and cattle.... It is well known the French troops are not a match for ours, as they are not able to ſtand againſt a charge made by our heavy cavalry, who bear down every thing that oppoſe them; now as the enemy may pay us one time or other, to their own advantage, by purchaſing our horſes to mount their troops; it is but juſt and prudent we ſhould draw upon them for a preſent ſum, to defray the loſs we may ſuffer in a future day.

Large eſtates ſhould be portioned out in farms of three hundred.... one hundred.... fifty and thirty pounds a year .... by ſuch a diviſion, all ranks and degrees of huſbandmen would be enabled to live comfortably and well.... the markets would be amply ſupplied with

with every convenience .... then famine would fly the fertile fields of England, to ſhelter herſelf in the howling deſarts of Arabia, or ſome other unfriendly climate, where induſtry is diſcouraged by religion, and the mind and body ſhackled by arbitrary power.

This is a copious and intereſting ſubject, in which, if I was to follow my inclination, and trace mankind through the devious windings of ſtratagem and fraud, I ſhould find an endleſs ſource of entertainment.... the doublings of artifice are many and various, and afford the higheſt diverſion to a generous ſportſman; but I decline the agreeable purſuit, being unwilling to amuſe myſelf at my reader's expence, who muſt have contributed much time.... a little money, and a great deal of patience, if I had

ſwelled

ſwelled my digreſſion to a pamphlet, inſtead of a chapter.

CHAP XXV.

Two characters by a Dutch maſter.

MR. Ipecacuanha propoſed putting me apprentice to one in his own profeſſion, with the view of taking me into partnerſhip with himſelf, when I ſhould be out of my ſervitude.... I conſented to the propoſition, as it ſeemed kind on his part, and eligible on mine.

I was accordingly indentured to Mr. Cathartic, diſtantly related to the Emetic family.... a gentleman, though poſſeſſed of many excellent qualities, had ſome very naſty ones :: .. of ſubtle, penetrating

ing parts .... his temper rather ſubitaneous than gentle .... but of a clear underſtanding .... which recommended him to opinion and practice .... and to his credit be it whiſpered, that although he was diſagreeable at the firſt acquaintance, yet he worked his way through, and tho' in a dirty manner, it had always a good effect, and made every body clear in their opinion of him; for his diſconcerted patients willingly diſpenſed with his ſlovenly manner, for the fluency of the matter, which, in juſtice to his operations, was, beyond meaſure, ſtrong and forcible, and from an abſterſive quality, ſeldom failed to evacuate every cauſe of complaint, and every objection from prejudice.

I was alſo particularly recommended to the care and inſpection of Mr. Carmi-

native, his aſſiſtant and kinſman, who, though but a ſervant, made more noiſe in the world than his maſter.... his mode of operation ſounded more, than the looſe method of practice which Mr. Cathartic uſually followed.... and being of an eaſy, lively turn, notwithſtanding report was loudly againſt him, he was admitted into great familiarities with the patients.... nay, I have been told by ſome ladies, cuſtomers to the ſhop, that, in ſpight of his unſightly figure, and his offenſive breath, which at times was ſtrong and fetid, that they often ſtrained a point, ſometimes beyond the bounds of decency, to ſqueeze him into their public, as well as private parties .... but they obſerved, he was better calculated for the entertainment of the latter than the former, as he was baſhful to a fault.... for though loud and ſignificant

ficant with his intimates, he was always low and ſuffuſed when a ſtranger was in company.... In his preſcriptive character he was a friend to vegetable diet...ſpoke often in favour of ſeed-cake, and was never known to be ſilent when peas-ſoup was the topic, except when Mr. Cathartic was near, and then he never durſt venture to open his mouth.

Mr. Cathartic did not participate the honour of thoſe ſocial parties, ſo common as Mr. Carminative, from the alarming apprehenſion of his natural diſpoſition, which, if unguarded, was ſome times very indecent, and always troubleſome .... add to which, he was diſagreeably learned in the ſcience of his profeſſion, and too frequently obtruded the unintelligible language of it, to the confuſion of the head of the table, and to

the puzzling of the ſervants .... for example, when he called for a bumper of wine, he deſired his glaſs might be plethoric .... begged the lady would help him to the cartillage of the knuckle of veal .... and always inſiſted upon a ſaporific cruſt to ſtimulate the flavour of the punicious fluid.

I was now entering upon a new ſcene .... I found myſelf, at once, removed from playing at marbles to culling of ſimples .... and from beating a drum to pummelling a mortar .... the converſation I ſo lately delighted in, alas! how changed! .... where was the circulating laugh, which I had ſo many years been entertained with? ... nothing appeared but a ſolemnity too ſublime, or too rediculous for my comprehenſion .... and nothing was heard but a jargon I did not under-

underſtand .... I thought my chymical chiromancers were philtering to charm the devil, and the characters which confound a doctor's preſcription, I miſtook for myſtical taliſmen to aſſiſt their conjuration!

All theſe things, as they were new, appeared aſtoniſhing to me! but amazement was ſoon at an end; for it was not long before I was let into the arcanum of their magic, and the ſecret of their ſpells, and potions revealed to me .... I then began to form ſome idea of the myſterious ſcience of pharmacy .... the *Materia Medica* was very ſimple, and the knowledge of it eaſily attained .... the next thing to be conſulted was the mechaniſm of the human body, and the pendulum which directed the motion of the different parts of it .... to acquire a com-

petent knowledge of the firſt, I attended the anatomical lectures in Covent-Garden, and practice brought me acquainted with the nature and influence of the latter.

I felt a pulſe with the ſame important countenance as my maſter, and kept my muſcles under ſuch diſcipline, ſo as to arrange them at pleaſure, in the order, or rather diſorder, of conſequential ſkill and perception .... Having acquired the grimace, my next ſtudy was the outward form or dreſs of an experienced practitioner .... for the emptieſt fop does not ſtudy peculiarity of dreſs more than a phyſical coxcomb .... a full ſuit of chocolate, buttoned to the bottom, decorated my body .... an enormous buſhed periwig was the ſole ornament of my head, and my face was diſguiſed by a galenical maſk.

Being

Being thus furniſhed with every material property, I opened the farce in the character which Fortune (the principal manager of our theatre) had caſt for me.

Nothing was now wanting to complete the doctor, but the reputation of knowing how to treat with ſeeming judgment, and real ſucceſs, ſome popular diſorder .... this was the ſort of knowledge very neceſſary to be attained, as it both promiſed me credit with my aſſociates, and flattered (what was equally prevailing at that time) my intereſt.

I try'd every honeſt artifice to worm out the ſecret from my friend Carminative, but he was too old and too experienced to be over-reach'd by one ſo young and ignorant as I was .... I then ſet *my* brains to work to ſuck out *his*; but alas! I was a ſtranger to the ſubtle properties of attraction, and

he was of too ſtubborn a nature, to yield to the power of ſympathy .... thus foiled in every innocent attempt, my impatience at length got the better of my integrity, and I obtained that by violent, which I could not obtain by direct means.

I took the opportunity, when buſineſs called Mr. Carminative from ſolacing himſelf with his uſual poſt meridian ſneaker, to ſlip into the ſixpenny bowl thirty drops of thebaic tincture, or prepared juice of the papaver album, which had the deſired effect; for in half an hour the effluvia began to operate, it threw the ſpirits into an unuſual agitation, but for want of a ſupplemental ſupply they ſoon dejected into dullneſs .... his muſcles, as by conſent, became immoveable, and unable to ſuſtain their members .... the pores of the nerves were cloſed .... and the

the circulation of the nervous fluid from the cortical or outward part of the brain, to the medullary or internal parts obſtructed, which locked up the faculties of ſenſation for ſome time .... in this oblivious ſtate, I like a pilferer, took from his pocket the key of his repoſitory, and ranſacked his book of knowledge, till I arrived at the end and purpoſe of my ſearch .... I then fairly tranſcribed his whole method of practice, in that particular diſorder ſo very well known, and ſo perfectly underſtood in the cities of London and Weſtminſter, and moſt particularly reſpected by the faculty, from the great benefit ariſing to the ſurgeons and apothecaries reſiding in both.

Pleaſed with the diſcovery, I locked up the bureau; and replaced the key in the ſame pocket I found it .... thus far advanced

vanced in the ſcience of phyſic, I conſidered myſelf an Archeus, powerfully qualified to ſuperintend, and correct the frailties in the human œconomy.

I communicated my talent to the mazy round of my juvenile acquaintance, and it was not many weeks before they furniſhed me with a proper ſubject to exerciſe my ſkill upon.... I ſucceeded to their wiſh and my own; for my patient was reſtored to health, and I received the reward of my application and labour, in leſs time than a fortnight, and all done without the knowledge of his parents or my maſter; from this fortuitous event, my former ſtill life was put into motion, and my fame (like a ſtone dropt into a river) meandered into a variety of circles, which expanded to every quarter, and made my name famous among the gail-

gaillards of the town, who conſidered me a very uſeful member of their profligate ſociety.

In the number of my patients you may ſuppoſe a variety of ſtrange characters made up the liſt .... I had dealings with men-boys, and (I bluſh to name it) with boyiſh men too .... the firſt I found a poor, harmleſs, unthrifty people, who, like prodigals, ſquandered away their fortune and conſtitution, without once thinking there would be a greater demand for both, when the imbecility of age required their aſſiſtance.

The latter were monſters, compoſed of groſſer and more ſtubborn materials! a ſort of ambiguities who carry grave and virtuous faces, with wanton and vicious inclinations! .... Such men may be

be compared to Mrs. W—— 's in Curzon Street, or the late Mother R——'s in Taviſtock-Row, two decent brothels whoſe formal unſuſpicious outſides diſguiſe the riot and confuſion within.

Young as I was at that time, I looked with ſilent indignation on men, who attempted a part ſo much inferior to the dignity of their ſtation and character.... to be ſo baſe in their principles as to ſuffer the mind to be a ſlave to the titillation of the body .... A grey-headed libertine, exclaimed I, is ſurely of all animals the moſt odious and contemptible! .... it is in life, as in a play, ſays Epictetus, not ſo much to be minded, who acts the prince or the beggar, but who acts the prince or the beggar beſt.

Although I courted and admired the golden perquiſite that fell from the palſy'd

ſy'd fingers of thoſe ſuperannuated ſinners, I deteſted and ſhunned their converſation and manners, and thought to myſelf how ſhocking and unbecoming it was, that thoſe who ought to be the watchful centinels to guard the actions of youth, ſhould deſert the honourable poſt allotted them by the wiſdom of experience, and ſhamefully join in and encourage their debaucheries.

Prudence, like a ſkilful engineer, has drawn a line of circumvallation for the ſecurity of our actions, as well as for the defence of our property, and he who raſhly adventures beyond the limits of her works, is as culpable as a ſchool boy out of bounds, and expoſes himſelf to the diſcipline of cenſure, as a truant from the moſt important and eſſential duty of life .... ſomething may be ſaid

in

in excuſe for the irregularities of youth, the paſſions of young men act under a roving commiſſion from nature, and (as we may expect from the latitude of ſuch an appointment) they are ſometimes right, but more frequently in the wrong; .... but the appetites of men ought to be reſtrain'd by the decent punctilios which nature has preſcrib'd for the conduct of grey hairs, and not in wanton diſobedience exceed the authority of her inſtructions ..... When a cat grows old, he ſhould leave off playing with his tail.

Cato the Cenſor, rebuking an old debauchee for the irregularity of his deportment, ſaid, " Friend, old age has " deformities enough of its own, do not " add to them the deformity of vice."

In

In the run of practice at my-firſt ſetting out (for by the perverſeneſs of cuſtom people generally meet with moſt encouragement when they leaſt deſerve it) I became acquainted with one captain Garbage, an officer in the Surry militia, one of thoſe kind of ſoldiers who ſnore louder in bed than they ſhout in battle .... he was juſt let looſe upon the world without one ſingle requiſite to qualify him for the new ſcene he was to appear in .... He was very young .... very illiterate, and his perſon very unweildy; the component parts of his figure were ſo diſproportion'd, and ſo clumſily put together, that the diameter of his body far exceeded the perpendicular of it.... and withal he was never known to betray the leaſt ſymptom of raſhneſs in his military capacity; for he was of that peaceable diſpoſition, that in his ſyſtem

of

of arms he invariably adopted this axiom from the martial Hudibraſs:

In all the trade of war, no feat
Is nobler than a brave retreat.

This corpulent young hero ſent for me one morning, and when he had recover'd breath from the hurry of his buſineſs, told me, in confidence, he had met with an accident in country quarters, and was come to conſult me upon the alarming occaſion, at the ſame time enjoined ſecrecy; for, ſaid he, in a whiſper, you muſt know my father has engaged a one-eyed girl for the uſe of us both, and I know he would be exceedingly angry, if he thought I wandered abroad for thoſe pleaſures, which he, from his paternal fondneſs, had taken care to provide for us at home.... for he has often ſaid, what pleaſed him ought to ſatisfy me.

As

As there is ſomething extremely *outré* in the characters of this young man and his father, I will draw the pictures of both, and preſent them to you, as a frontiſpiece to the next volume.

POSTSCRIPT.

AN author paſſes in review at the tribunal of criticiſm, as a pick-pocket ſtands a ſcrutiny from the conſtituents of the civil power.... for

A critic in the republic of letters, is the ſame as a conſtable in the government of England.... an officer who makes himſelf a great deal of buſineſs, without acquiring any rank in the ſtate.... fond of the profits, and proud of the office, he makes a prey of every irregular ſubject that comes within the vortex of his apprehenſion.... drags the poor offender to the printer, who, as magiſtrate, com-

mits the culprit to the preſs, to extort a confeſſion for the advantage of both .... The publiſher, as judge, delivers his charge to the reader, who in the capacity of a juror, finds him guilty, or diſmiſſes his complaint.

I am aware the reforming critic will handle me with as little tenderneſs, as a reforming conſtable handles a poor helpleſs proſtitute, and from the ſame cauſe .... the want of judgment to diſtinguiſh the advantage of both.

Serious minds are adapted to ſerious ſubjects .... they require no artifice to deceive their endeavour to attain improvement .... but the gay and heedleſs muſt be cheated into the purſuit of it, by the allurement of levity .... a congruity of manners is the ſeaſoning for every palate, therefore I have taken ſome innocent freedoms to pleaſe my unthinking reader, that by humouring his inclination at the

firſt

firſt ſetting out, I may keep him in temper to receive ſuch company as I chuſe to introduce him to, that from the incitement of idle converſation, he may undeſignedly become intimate with the moſt edifying, and finding inſtruction in one, he will deſpiſe the inſignificancy of the other; thus by alienating his old, he will become enamoured of his new acquaintance, and progreſſion may prompt the readers of Sir Bartholomew Sapſkull to undertake the ſtudy of myſterious truths, from the elaborate diſcourſes of the Biſhop of London .... Seneca maintains there are certain honourable vices .... I hope my failings will be accepted under that predicament.

The affected prude, who pretends to be as careful of her ſoul, as ſhe certainly is of her body, will be exceedingly ſevere with the conduct of the ſpiritual doctor in the firſt volume, and the phy-

ſical doctor in this .... and in the vehemence of her reſentment ſhe will

What do you think ſhe will do?

Read it again to be ſure .... when having got it by heart, ſhe makes her mind the depoſitory of every circumſtance, that when the fit of reſerve is upon her, ſhe may quote ſome expreſſion, actionable in the court of decency, and ſo try me by the partial, and unſettled rules of punctilio.

Ruined modeſty acts her part in the ſtate, that is, in the natural government of mankind; her conduct, like the doctor's is exceptionable to many, but from the frequent ſpecimens of the depravity of mankind, ſhe is an honourable evil, and but for her, the City of London would be the City of Gomorrah .... this is the relative to the injudicious reformer, who, like a poacher, ſnares the game .... and wants the generoſity of a ſportſman to deſtroy the catamite, a ſpecies of vermin

moſt

moſt obnoxious to nature, and moſt offenſive to mankind.

The ghoſts of old Buſby and Martin Clare, haunt me in my ſleep for the character of Dyoniſius .... and I doubt not but many living tyrants of the rod, who from poſterior prejudices, had rather ſee the boys backſides than their faces, will diſcover ten thouſand blemiſhes in the picture .... ſo that an author muſt ſtudy the capricio of mankind, to be upon terms with the hydra.

Mr. Ipecacuanha's thoughts upon the preſent ſcartity of every neceſſary of life, will meet with oppoſition .... it is the fate of the beſt ſyſtem .... chriſtianity was rejected .... monopoliſts in the *hauteur* of reſentment will ſcornfully ſay, "there is little more in all this than what "has been already repeated in every newſ-"paper." .... If they ſay nothing ruder than that, it is very well .... there may

be

be ſome truth in that *poſtulatum* .... but then the correſpondents of newſpapers have not tranſmitted their thoughts ſo collectively, or enforced them ſo pathetically as my friend Ipecacuanha has done.

As the doctor has the intereſt of his country more at heart than his own, and prides himſelf more in his attempts to ſerve the public, than in his endeavours to aſſiſt his family .... he has been very earneſt in aſſuring me, that he owes no obligation to the newſpapers for his intelligence, for he had committed his thoughts to writing upon the firſt alarm, before any thing had appeared upon the ſubject .... therefore the concurrence of the public with his private ſentiments upon the ſame queſtion, is proving the ſum of the people's complaints.

As the doctor's character has very little vanity in the compoſition, this claim to merit for this particular ſervice, ſhews his

his zeal for his country. . . . and his love for his fellow-labourers . . . . and

That the doctor's ſolicitations may be ſtrengthened . . . . and the grievances of the poor attended to . . . . I will mention a circumſtance, as true as it is alarming.

A gentleman in the county of Lincoln offered a certain duke to take his grace's eſtates in that county for twenty years, at the ſame rent they are now lett at, and give him twenty thouſand pounds, as a fine, for the leaſe . . . . The temptation, though great, was rejected . . . . Virtue is a match for the devil . . . . His grace's refuſal was as noble as Mr. ———'s propoſition was baſe and oppreſſive.

What will become of the twenty thouſand, at leaſt, poor ſouls, who like frogs, live upon the vapours of Lincolnſhire, when the great fen is encloſed? . . . . Theſe * Homoranes can ſubſiſt no where elſe . . . It is difficult to drown an amphibii . . . .

* A compound word of *Homo et Rana*.

What

What can they do? .... Hanging is an eaſier death than ſtarving .... the gallows muſt put an end to the afflictions of many, which the avarice of a few muſt bring upon them, unleſs prevented by a ſubſequent law, to oblige the proprietors of reclaimed lands to plough up a certain proportion of it, to give employment and bread to the Tadpoles of Lincolnſhire, that hunger and idleneſs may not ſpread them over the country like an Egyptian peſtilence.

Some, from a knack of finding fault, will object to the ſmallneſs of the volumes .... I thank thoſe gentlemen for the involuntary compliment .... Books of claſſical importance ſhould figure away in the pompoſity of a quarto .... things of titular conſequence are diſtinguiſhable from their ſize .... Shakeſpeare deſcribes his Juſtice "in fair round belly," ... and the Court of Aldermen are comprehended in *folio perſonæ*.

THE END OF THE SECOND VOLUME.

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